

ACCOUNTANCY EXAMINING BOARD[193A]

Notice of Intended Action

Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)"b."

Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 542.4, the Accountancy Examining Board hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapters 1 to 4, 9 to 11, 13, and 15 to 17; rescind and adopt new Chapters 5 to 8, 12, 14, and 18; rescind Chapter 19; and adopt new Chapters 20 and 21, Iowa Administrative Code.

During the process of drafting these rules, the Board solicited participation from numerous constituent groups. A task force that included members of the Board as well as members from the Iowa Society of Certified Public Accountants and the Accountant's Association of Iowa reviewed several drafts of these amendments prior to this Notice.

Most of the proposed amendments implement changes required as a result of 2008 Iowa Acts, chapter 1106, which becomes effective July 1, 2009. This legislation allows out-of-state CPAs and CPA firms to practice in Iowa without licensure under some conditions. New Chapters 20 and 21 describe the practice privilege in some detail, and many of the chapters are amended to incorporate references to practice privilege where relevant. The legislation increases civil penalties for firms to \$10,000 and authorizes the Board to confidentially supply licensee social security numbers to the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy for use in a national data bank of licensee information. The legislation also allows licensees to voluntarily provide the Board with a final peer review report and, absent objection from the licensee, similarly allows the administering entity of a peer review program to provide a final peer review report to the Board.

Other proposed amendments:

- Update references to the 2001 Iowa Accountancy Act;
- Outline the Board's planned transition from biennial to annual renewal for individual licensees;
- Clarify provisions on who is authorized to perform attest or compilation services in Iowa, and under what conditions;
- Make a number of changes to the CPA and LPA firm application and renewal process;
- Add discipline provisions to the continuing education chapter and allow ethics continuing education to be earned in half-hour intervals under certain conditions;
- Reorganize fee information and change the fee to reinstate a lapsed license. The board has not yet established a fee schedule for annual renewals commencing with certificates and licenses that expire on and after June 30, 2010, and will amend the rules when the revised fee schedule is available;
- Add guidelines for licensees regarding how to address conflicts of interest; and
- Provide a detailed list of grounds for discipline.

These amendments are subject to waiver or variance pursuant to 193—Chapter 5.

Consideration will be given to all written suggestions or comments on the proposed amendments received on or before February 3, 2009. Comments should be addressed to Glenda Loving, Accountancy Examining Board, 1920 S.E. Hulsizer Road, Ankeny, Iowa 50021, or faxed to (515)281-7411. E-mail may be sent to glenda.loving@iowa.gov.

A public hearing will be held on February 3, 2009, at 10 a.m. in the Second Floor Conference Room of the Board's offices located at 1918 S.E. Hulsizer Road, Ankeny.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 17A, 272C, 542 and 546 and 2008 Iowa Acts, chapter 1106.

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Amend rule **193A—1.1(542)**, definitions of “Act,” “Attest,” “Division,” “Licensed public accountant,” and “Office,” as follows:

“*Act*” means the Accountancy Act of 2001 as amended by 2008 Iowa Acts, chapter 1106.

“*Attest*” or “*attest service*” means providing any of the following services:

1. An audit or other engagement to be performed in accordance with the statements on auditing standards.

2. A review of a financial statement to be performed in accordance with the statements on standards for accounting and review services.

3. An examination of prospective financial information to be performed in accordance with the statements on standards for attestation engagements.

4. Any engagement to be performed in accordance with the auditing standards of the PCAOB.

~~For purposes of these rules, the statements on standards for attestation engagements means~~ The standards specified in the definition of “attest” are those standards adopted by the board, by rule, by reference to the standards developed for general application by the AICPA, the PCAOB, or other recognized national accountancy organization.

“~~Division Bureau~~” means the professional licensing and regulation ~~division~~ bureau of the division of banking of the department of commerce.

“*Licensed public accountant*” means a person licensed by the board pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.8 who does not hold a certificate as a certified public accountant under this chapter ~~and who offers.~~ A “licensed public accountant” is not authorized to perform attest services, but may offer to perform or performs perform for the public any of the following public accounting services:

1. to 7. No change.

“*Office*” means any Iowa workspace identified or advertised to the general public as ~~being connected with any firm of CPAs or LPAs where business is conducted~~ a location where public accounting services are performed.

ITEM 2. Adopt the following new definitions in rule **193A—1.1(542)**:

“*Home office*” means the location specified by the client as the address to which an attest or compilation service is directed, which may be a subunit or subsidiary of an entity or the principal office of an entity.

“*Practice privilege*” means an authorization to practice public accounting in Iowa or for clients with a home office in Iowa without licensure under this chapter, as provided in Iowa Code section 542.20.

“*Principal place of business*” means the primary location from which public accounting services are performed. A person or firm may only have one principal place of business at any one time. Persons who perform public accounting services at multiple or rotating locations, such as CPAs who perform attest services on assignment as needed in multiple jurisdictions, may designate as their principal place of business the location that most often serves as the person’s home base of operations.

ITEM 3. Amend rule 193A—2.1(79GA,ch55) as follows:

193A—2.1(79GA, ~~ch55~~ 542) Description.

2.1(1) The purpose of the accountancy examining board is to administer and enforce the provisions of ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, (Accountancy Act of 2001)~~ Iowa Code chapter 542 with regard to the practice of accountancy in the state of Iowa including the examining of candidates; issuing of certificates and licenses; granting of permits to practice accountancy; investigating violations and infractions of the accountancy law; disciplining certificate holders, licensees or permit holders; regulating individuals or firms exercising a practice privilege; and imposing civil penalties against nonlicensees. To this end, the board has promulgated these rules to clarify the board’s intent and procedures.

2.1(2) The primary mission of the board is to protect the public interest. All board rules shall be construed as fostering the guiding policies and principles described in ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, section 2~~ Iowa Code section 542.2. The board and its licensees shall strive at all times to protect the public interest by promoting the reliability of information that is used for guidance in financial transactions

or accounting for or assessing the financial status or performance of commercial, noncommercial, and governmental enterprises.

2.1(3) All official communications, including submissions and requests, should be addressed to the board at ~~1918~~ 1920 S.E. Hulsizer, Ankeny, Iowa 52001.

ITEM 4. Amend rule 193A—2.2(79GA,ch55) as follows:

193A—2.2(79GA,ch55 542) Administrative Advisory committees.

~~2.2(1)~~ The board chair may appoint administrative advisory committees of not less than two nor more than ~~five~~ four members who shall be members of the board for the purpose of making recommendations on matters specified by to the board concerning the board's responsibilities as to examinations, licensing, continuing education, professional conduct, discipline, and other board matters.

~~2.2(2) An administrative committee may be appointed to make recommendations to the board concerning the board's responsibilities as to examinations, registrations and licensing, continuing education, professional conduct, discipline and other board matters.~~

ITEM 5. Amend rules **193A—2.3(79GA,ch55)** to **193A—2.5(79GA,ch55)**, parenthetical implementation, by striking “79GA,ch55” and inserting “542” in lieu thereof.

ITEM 6. Amend rules 193A—2.6(79GA,ch55) and 193A—2.7(17A,21,22,272C,79GA,ch55) as follows:

193A—2.6(79GA,ch55 542) Disclosure of confidential information.

2.6(1) ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, section 4, Iowa Code section 542.4(5)~~ prohibits members of the board from disclosing a final examination score to persons other than the one who took the examination. ~~For the purposes of this rule, “final score” includes information as to whether the candidate “passed,” “failed,” or “conditioned” the examination.~~ Persons who take the examination may consent to the publication of their names on a list of passing candidates.

2.6(2) ~~Other information~~ Information relating to the examination results, including the specific grades by subject matter, shall be given only to the person who took the examination, except that the board may:

a. No change.

b. Disclose the specific grades by subject matter to educational institutions, professional organizations, or others ~~who have a legitimate interest in the information~~, provided the names of the persons taking the examination are not provided in conjunction with the scores.

193A—2.7(17A,21,22,272C,79GA,ch55 542) Uniform division bureau rules. Administrative and procedural rules which are common to all boards in the ~~division bureau~~ can be found in the rules of the professional licensing and regulation ~~division bureau~~.

2.7(1) Persons seeking waivers or variances from board rules should review the uniform ~~division~~ rules at 193—Chapter 5.

2.7(2) and 2.7(3) No change.

2.7(4) Rules regarding denial of issuance or renewal of license or license suspension or revocation for nonpayment of child support, debts owing to the state, or student ~~loan~~ loans appear at 193—Chapter 8.

2.7(5) to 2.7(9) No change.

ITEM 7. Amend **193A—Chapter 2**, implementation sentence, as follows:

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 17A, 21, 22, and 272C and ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55~~ 542.

ITEM 8. Amend subrule 3.1(2) as follows:

3.1(2) An application may be denied if the applicant:

a. Has been convicted of a crime described in Iowa Code section 542.5(2);

b. Has had a professional license of any kind revoked in this or any other jurisdiction, as provided in Iowa Code section 542.5(3);

c. Makes a false statement of material fact on an application for a certificate or is otherwise implicated in the submission of a false application as provided in Iowa Code section 542.5(4); ~~or~~

d. Has violated a provision of Iowa Code section 542.20 or has been assessed penalties pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.14 or 193A—Chapter 17;

e. Is the subject of a notice of noncompliance as provided in 193—Chapter 8;

~~d. f.~~ Demonstrates a lack of moral character in a manner which the board reasonably believes will impair the applicant's ability to practice public accountancy in full compliance with the public interest and state policies described in Iowa Code section 542.2. While it is not possible to itemize all actions or behaviors which may demonstrate a lack of moral character, the following nonexclusive list of factors will guide the board in making its determination:

(1) A pattern and practice of making false or deceptive representations, or of omitting material facts, while providing the public any of the services described in Iowa Code section 542.3(20);~~;~~

(2) Fraud or dishonesty while advertising or selling goods or services to the public;~~;~~

(3) Willful or repeated failure to timely file tax returns or other mandatory submittals due a governmental body;~~;~~

(4) Fiscally irresponsible behavior in the absence of mitigating circumstances;~~;~~

g. Is subject to discipline on any ground that would form the basis for discipline against a licensee;

or

h. Has had a practice privilege revoked in this or another jurisdiction.

ITEM 9. Amend subrule 3.15(1) as follows:

3.15(1) Only a person who holds ~~a valid~~ an active, unexpired certificate and who complies with the requirements of 193A—Chapters 5 and 10 or a person lawfully exercising a practice privilege under Iowa Code section 542.20 may use or assume the title “certified public accountant” or the abbreviation “CPA” or any other title, designation, words, letters, abbreviation, sign, card, or device tending to indicate that such person is a certified public accountant.

ITEM 10. Amend **193A—Chapter 3**, implementation sentence, as follows:

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 542 and Iowa Code section 546.10.

ITEM 11. Amend subrule 4.1(2) as follows:

4.1(2) An application may be denied if the applicant:

a. Has been convicted of a crime;

b. Has had a professional license of any kind revoked in this or any other jurisdiction;

c. Makes a false statement of material fact on an application for a license or is otherwise implicated in the submission of a false application; ~~or~~

d. Has been assessed penalties pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.14 or 193A—Chapter 17;

e. Is the subject of a notice of noncompliance as provided in 193—Chapter 8;

~~d. f.~~ Demonstrates a lack of moral character in a manner that the board reasonably believes will impair the applicant's ability to practice public accountancy in full compliance with the public interest and state policies described in Iowa Code section 542.2. While it is not possible to itemize all actions or behaviors which may demonstrate a lack of moral character, the following nonexclusive list of factors will guide the board in making its determination:

(1) A pattern and practice of making false or deceptive representations, or of omitting material facts, while providing any accounting services to the public ~~any of the services;~~

(2) Fraud or dishonesty while advertising or selling goods or services to the public;~~;~~

(3) Willful or repeated failure to timely file tax returns or other mandatory submittals due a governmental body;~~;~~

(4) Fiscally irresponsible behavior in the absence of mitigating circumstances;~~;~~ or

g. Is subject to discipline on any ground that would form the basis for discipline against a licensee.

ITEM 12. Rescind **193A—Chapter 5 to Chapter 8** and adopt the following new chapters in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 5
LICENSURE STATUS AND RENEWAL OF CERTIFICATES AND LICENSES

193A—5.1(542) Licensure status and practice privilege.

5.1(1) Licenses issued by the board pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.6, 542.8, or 542.19 may be in active, inactive, or lapsed status, as follows:

a. An initial license is issued in active status with an expiration date. Maintaining active status requires periodic renewal as provided in rules 193A—5.2(542) and 5.3(542). Renewal in active status requires satisfaction of continuing education as provided in 193A—Chapter 10.

b. A license may be renewed in inactive status as provided in rule 193A—5.9(272C,542) if the licensee does not satisfy the continuing education required for renewal in active status. A renewal license issued in inactive status shall lapse if not timely renewed pursuant to rule 193A—5.2(542) or 5.3(542). An inactive license may be reinstated to active status at any time pursuant to 193A—subrule 5.9(7).

c. An active or inactive license that is not timely renewed shall be in lapsed status. A lapsed license may be reinstated to active or inactive status at any time pursuant to 193A—subrule 5.6(3).

5.1(2) An individual holding an active license is authorized to use the title “CPA” or “LPA,” as applicable, in the individual’s practice of public accounting in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa.

5.1(3) An individual holding an inactive or lapsed license is not authorized to practice public accounting in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa using the title “CPA” or “LPA.”

5.1(4) Practicing public accounting in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa while holding an inactive or lapsed license is a ground for discipline under Iowa Code section 542.10 and may also or alternatively provide grounds for the regulatory actions described in Iowa Code section 542.14.

5.1(5) Out-of-state individuals holding an inactive or lapsed Iowa CPA certificate and out-of-state individuals to whom an Iowa CPA certificate has never been issued under Iowa Code chapter 542 or prior law may exercise a practice privilege under Iowa Code section 542.20 if they hold an active CPA certificate in the jurisdiction in which they maintain their principal place of business and otherwise satisfy all of the conditions described in Iowa Code section 542.20 and 193A—Chapter 20.

5.1(6) Exercising a practice privilege in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa while holding an inactive or lapsed Iowa CPA certificate places a special burden on the individual to ensure that the public is informed about the individual’s licensure status in Iowa and in the jurisdiction of active licensure, as provided in 193A—paragraphs 20.8(2) “*b*” and 20.8(3) “*b*.” As a practical matter, an individual’s failure to clarify licensure status in Iowa and in the jurisdiction of the individual’s principal place of business may confuse the public. There is no comprehensive national data bank that the public may consult to verify an individual’s licensure in another jurisdiction, and a client contacting the board or consulting the board’s Web site will be informed that the individual is not actively licensed in Iowa. The board will have no record of an individual’s exercise or purported exercise of a practice privilege.

193A—5.2(542) Renewal of license that expires on or before June 30, 2009.

5.2(1) To maintain the certified public accountant certificate granted by the board under Iowa Code section 542.6 or 542.19 or the license to practice as a licensed public accountant granted under Iowa Code section 542.8, certificates and licenses shall be renewed biennially.

5.2(2) Licensees whose last names begin with A through K will renew in even-numbered years. Licensees whose last names begin with L through Z will renew in odd-numbered years.

5.2(3) The renewal of certificates and licenses, as required by Iowa Code sections 542.6 and 542.8, shall be on the basis of a biennial expiration date of June 30, and shall be completed upon forms that may be obtained from the board office or on the board’s Web site, or through electronic on-line renewal. A biennial renewal fee will be charged.

193A—5.3(542) Renewal of license that expires on or after June 30, 2010.

5.3(1) Licenses issued pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.6, 542.8, or 542.19 that expire on June 30, 2010, and thereafter shall be renewed on an annual basis, and shall expire on June 30 of each year. Licenses shall be renewed through electronic on-line renewal, except that licensees who are ineligible to renew on line because they must disclose a criminal conviction or disciplinary order, or for other cause, shall renew upon forms that may be obtained from the board office or on the board's Web site. An annual renewal fee will be charged.

5.3(2) Licensees whose last names begin with A through K shall first renew on an annual basis when their licenses are scheduled to expire on June 30, 2010.

5.3(3) Licensees whose last names begin with L through Z shall first renew on an annual basis when their licenses are scheduled to expire on June 30, 2011.

5.3(4) After all individual licenses have been transitioned to annual renewal cycles, the board plans to develop a renewal process in which a firm permit to practice and the individual licenses associated with the firm may be renewed together. The board shall adopt rules governing the combined renewal process when further details are known and the technological means to implement the process are in place.

193A—5.4(542) Notices.

5.4(1) The board typically mails a notice to licensees in the May preceding license expiration, but neither the failure of the board to mail nor a licensee's failure to receive a renewal notice shall excuse the requirement to timely renew a license.

5.4(2) A licensee shall notify the board within 30 days of any change of address or firm affiliation.

193A—5.5(542) Renewal procedures.

5.5(1) A licensee shall submit an electronic on-line renewal or file a timely and sufficient renewal application with the board by the June 30 deadline in the renewal year. An application shall be deemed filed on the date of electronic renewal or when received by the board or, if mailed, on the date postmarked, but not the date metered.

5.5(2) An applicant for renewal under this chapter shall disclose on the application all background and character information requested by the board including, but not limited to:

- a.* All states or foreign jurisdictions in which the applicant has applied for or holds a CPA certificate or license, an LPA license, or a substantially equivalent designation from a foreign country;
- b.* Any past denial, revocation, suspension, or refusal to renew a CPA certificate, license or permit to practice, or LPA license, or voluntary surrender of a CPA certificate, license or permit or LPA license to resolve or avoid disciplinary action, or similar actions concerning a substantially equivalent foreign designation;
- c.* Any other form of discipline or other penalty imposed against a CPA certificate, license or permit, LPA license, or a substantially equivalent foreign designation, or a practice privilege;
- d.* The conviction of any crime; and
- e.* The revocation of a professional license of any kind in this or any other jurisdiction.

5.5(3) A licensee who performs compilation services for the public other than through a certified public accounting or licensed public accounting firm shall submit a certification of completion of a peer review conducted in accordance with 193A—Chapter 11 no less often than once every three years.

5.5(4) Within the meaning of Iowa Code section 17A.18(2), a timely and sufficient renewal application shall be:

- a.* Received by the board in person or electronic form or postmarked with a nonmetered United States Postal Service postmark on or before the date the license is set to expire or lapse;
- b.* Signed by the licensee if submitted in person or mailed, or certified as accurate if submitted electronically;
- c.* Fully completed, including continuing education, if applicable; and
- d.* Accompanied with the proper fee. The fee shall be deemed improper if, for instance, the amount is incorrect, the fee was not included with the application, the credit card number provided

by the applicant is incorrect, the date of expiration of a credit card is omitted or incorrect, the attempted credit card transaction is rejected, or the applicant's check is returned for insufficient funds or a closed account.

5.5(5) The administrative processing of an application to renew an existing license shall not prevent the board from subsequently commencing a contested case to challenge the licensee's qualifications for continued licensure if grounds exist to do so.

5.5(6) If grounds exist to deny a timely and sufficient application to renew, the board shall send written notification to the applicant by restricted certified mail, return receipt requested. Grounds may exist to deny an application to renew if, for instance, the licensee failed to satisfy the continuing education as required as a condition for licensure. If the basis for denial is pending disciplinary action or disciplinary investigation which is reasonably expected to culminate in disciplinary action, the board shall proceed as provided in 193—Chapter 7. If the basis for denial is not related to a pending or imminent disciplinary action, the applicant may contest the board's decision as provided in 193—subrule 7.39(1).

5.5(7) When a licensee appears to be in violation of mandatory continuing education requirements, the board may, in lieu of proceeding to a contested case hearing on the denial of a renewal application as provided in rule 193—7.39(546,272C), offer a licensee the opportunity to renew in inactive status or to sign a consent order. While the terms of the consent order will be tailored to the specific circumstances at issue, the consent order will typically impose a penalty between \$50 and \$250, depending on the severity of the violation; establish deadlines for compliance; and may impose additional educational requirements on the licensee. A licensee is free to accept or reject the offer. If the offer of settlement is accepted, the licensee will be issued a renewed license and will be subject to disciplinary action if the terms of the consent order are not complied with. If the offer of settlement is rejected, the matter will be set for hearing, if timely requested by the applicant pursuant to 193—subrule 7.39(1). A licensee who falsely reports continuing education to the board shall be subject to additional sanctions including, when appropriate, suspension or revocation.

5.5(8) A certificate or license holder who continues to practice public accounting as a CPA or an LPA in Iowa after the certificate or license has expired shall be subject to disciplinary action. Such unauthorized activity may also be grounds to deny a licensee's application for reinstatement.

193A—5.6(542) Failure to renew.

5.6(1) A license or certificate holder who fails to renew the certificate or license by the expiration date, but does so within 30 days following its expiration date, shall be assessed a penalty as provided in rule 193A—12.1(542).

5.6(2) If the holder fails to renew the certificate or license within the 30-day grace period outlined in subrule 5.6(1), the certificate or license will lapse and the licensee shall be required to reinstate in accordance with subrule 5.6(3). The licensee is not authorized to practice during the period of time that the certificate or license is lapsed, including the 30-day grace period.

5.6(3) The board may reinstate a lapsed certificate or license upon the applicant's submission of an application to reinstate and completion of all of the following:

- a. Paying a penalty as provided in rule 193A—12.1(542); and
- b. Paying the current renewal fee; and
- c. Providing evidence of completed continuing education outlined in rule 193A—10.3(542), if the licensee wishes to reinstate to active status; and
- d. Providing a written statement outlining the professional activities of the applicant during the period in which the applicant's license was lapsed. The statement shall describe all services performed which constitute the practice of accounting including, but not limited to, those professional practice activities described in subrule 5.9(2). Such statement shall state whether the applicant exercised a practice privilege in the period during which the license was lapsed and, if so, the jurisdiction of the applicant's principal place of business and status of out-of-state licensure.

5.6(4) A licensee holding a lapsed CPA certificate is not authorized to perform attest or compilation services or to otherwise practice public accounting using the title "CPA" in Iowa or for a client with a

home office in Iowa. A licensee holding a lapsed LPA license is not authorized to perform compilation services or to otherwise practice public accounting in Iowa using the title “LPA.” A licensee holding a lapsed CPA certificate or LPA license shall not use the title “CPA” or “LPA” in any context unless the licensee discloses that the certificate or license has lapsed. Additionally, a person holding a lapsed Iowa CPA certificate and who is actively licensed as a CPA in another jurisdiction in which the person maintains the principal place of business may be eligible to exercise a practice privilege pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.20 and 193A—Chapter 20.

5.6(5) Practicing public accounting on a lapsed license is a ground for discipline. The board may find probable cause to file charges if the individual continues to offer services defined as the practice of public accounting while using the title “CPA” or “LPA” during the period of lapsed licensure. In addition to the disciplinary sanctions described in rule 193A—16.3(272C,542), individuals found to have practiced public accounting on a lapsed license will be required to notify clients upon such terms as the board shall order.

193A—5.7(272C,542) Certificates and licenses—property of the board. Every certificate or license granted by the board shall, while it remains in the possession of the holder, be preserved by the holder but shall, nevertheless, always remain the property of the board. In the event that the certificate or license is revoked or suspended, or is not renewed in the manner prescribed by Iowa Code chapter 542 or 272C, it shall, on demand, be delivered by the holder to the board. However, a person shall be entitled to retain possession of a lapsed certificate or license which has not been revoked, suspended or voluntarily surrendered in a disciplinary action as long as the person complies with all provisions of Iowa Code sections 542.10 and 542.13. A lapsed certificate or license may be reinstated to active or inactive status at any time pursuant to 193A—subrule 5.6(3).

193A—5.8(542) Licensee’s continuing duty to report. An active or inactive licensee shall notify the board in writing of the licensee’s conviction of a crime within 30 days of the date of conviction. “Conviction” is defined in Iowa Code section 542.5(2). Licensees shall also notify the board in writing within 30 days of the date of any issuance, denial, revocation, or suspension of a certificate, license or permit by another state.

193A—5.9(272C,542) Inactive status.

5.9(1) General purpose. This rule establishes a procedure under which a person issued a certificate as a certified public accountant or a license as a licensed public accountant may apply to the board for licensure in inactive status. Inactive licensure under this rule is available to a certificate or license holder residing within or outside the state of Iowa who is not engaged in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa in any practice for which an active certificate or license is required. A person eligible for inactive status may, as an alternative, allow the person’s certificate or license to lapse. The board will continue to maintain a database on licensees in inactive status, including information which may not routinely be maintained after a certificate or license has lapsed through failure to renew. An inactive licensee will accordingly receive board newsletters and other mass communications from the board.

5.9(2) Eligibility. A person holding a lapsed or active certificate or license which has not been revoked or suspended may apply on forms provided by the board to renew in inactive status if the person is not engaged in the state of Iowa or for clients with a home office in Iowa in any practice for which an active certificate or license is required, including:

- a. Supervising or performing any attest services, such as audits, reviews or agreed-upon procedures (which may only be performed by a CPA within a CPA firm that holds a permit to practice);
- b. Supervising or performing compilation services or otherwise issuing compilation reports (which may only be performed by a CPA or LPA); or
- c. Performing any accounting, tax, consulting, or financial or managerial advisory services for any client, business, employer, government body, or other entity while holding oneself out as a CPA or LPA, or otherwise using titles restricted in Iowa Code section 542.13.

5.9(3) Affirmation. The application form shall contain a statement in which the applicant affirms that the applicant will not engage in any of the practices in Iowa listed in subrule 5.9(2) without first complying with all rules governing reinstatement to active status. A person in inactive status may reinstate to active status at any time pursuant to subrule 5.9(7).

5.9(4) Renewal. A person licensed in inactive status may renew the person's certificate or license on the schedule described in rule 193A—5.1(542). Such person is exempt from the continuing education requirements and will be charged a reduced renewal fee as provided in rule 193A—12.1(542). An inactive certificate or license shall lapse if not timely renewed.

5.9(5) Permitted practices. A person may, while registered as inactive, perform for a client, business, employer, government body, or other entity those accounting, tax, consulting, or financial or managerial advisory services which may lawfully be performed by a person to whom a certificate or license has never been issued as long as the person does not in connection with such services use the title "CPA" or "LPA," or any other title restricted for use only by CPAs or LPAs in Iowa Code section 542.13 (with or without additional designations such as "inactive"). Restricted titles may only be used by active CPAs or LPAs who are subject to continuing education requirements to ensure that the use of such titles is consistently associated with the maintenance of competency through continuing education. Additionally, individuals who are actively licensed as CPAs in another jurisdiction in which they maintain their principal place of business may be eligible to exercise a practice privilege pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.20 and 193A—Chapter 20.

5.9(6) Prohibited practices. A person who, while licensed in inactive status, engages in any of the practices described in subrule 5.9(2) or violates any provision of rule 193A—14.2(17A,272C,542) is subject to disciplinary action. A person in inactive status is not authorized to verify the experience of an applicant for a CPA certificate under Iowa Code section 542.5(12) or an applicant for an LPA license under Iowa Code section 542.8(8).

5.9(7) Reinstatement to active status. A person licensed in inactive status shall, prior to engaging in any of the practices in Iowa listed in subrule 5.9(2) or for a client with a home office in Iowa, apply to the board to reinstate to active status. Such person shall pay the applicable renewal fee for active status, but shall be given credit for renewal fees previously paid for inactive status if the person applies for reinstatement at a date other than the person's regular renewal date. Such person must demonstrate compliance with all applicable continuing education and peer review requirements. A person who has engaged in the practice of public accounting as an active licensee of another jurisdiction while licensed as inactive in Iowa will be deemed to have satisfied the continuing education required for reinstatement if the person demonstrates that the person has satisfied substantially equivalent continuing education in the other jurisdiction.

5.9(8) Retired status. A person holding an inactive license who does not reasonably expect to return to the workforce in any capacity for which an active certificate or license is required due to bona fide retirement or disability may use the title "CPA, retired" or "LPA, retired," as applicable, in the context of non-income-producing personal activities.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 272C and 542 and Iowa Code section 546.10.

CHAPTER 6 ATTEST AND COMPILATION SERVICES

193A—6.1(542) Who may perform attest services.

6.1(1) Only a CPA may perform audit, review, or other attest services, as defined in Iowa Code section 542.3(1).

6.1(2) CPAs who perform attest services in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa must hold an active Iowa CPA certificate or exercise a practice privilege under Iowa Code section 542.20. CPAs are cautioned, however, that the auditor of state, the department of agriculture and land stewardship, another governmental official or body, or a client may require that an individual be licensed in Iowa as a condition of performing attest services in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa, whether

or not the individual may otherwise satisfy the conditions for a practice privilege. Iowa licensure as a certified public accountant is required, for example, to perform certain audit services described in Iowa Code chapter 11.

6.1(3) CPAs performing attest services, whether certified in Iowa or exercising a practice privilege, must do so in a CPA firm that holds a permit to practice pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.7.

6.1(4) CPAs who are responsible for supervising attest services for a CPA firm or who sign or authorize someone to sign the accountant's report on the financial statements on behalf of a CPA firm shall satisfy the experience or competency requirements established by nationally recognized professional standards that are applicable to the attest services performed and shall, at a minimum, satisfy the experience requirements of rule 193A—6.2(542).

193A—6.2(542) Attest experience required.

6.2(1) A CPA who is responsible for supervising attest services or who signs or authorizes someone to sign the accountant's report on financial statements on behalf of a firm shall have two years of full-time or part-time equivalent experience that extends over a period of no less than two years and includes no fewer than 4,000 hours, at least 2,000 of which shall be in providing attest services under the supervision of one or more CPAs responsible for supervising attest services on behalf of a CPA firm that holds a permit to practice in Iowa or an equivalent form of CPA firm licensure in another jurisdiction.

6.2(2) Experience shall include all of the following:

a. Experience in applying a variety of auditing procedures and techniques to the usual and customary financial transactions recorded in accounting records.

b. Experience in the preparation of audit working papers covering the examination of the accounts usually found in accounting records.

c. Experience in the planning of the program of audit work including the selection of the procedures to be followed.

d. Experience in the preparation of written explanations and comments on the findings of the examinations and on the content of the accounting records.

e. Experience in the preparation and analysis of financial statements together with explanations and notes thereon.

6.2(3) Verification of attest experience shall be provided by the applicant and by a CPA who supervised the applicant or, if a supervising CPA is unavailable, by a CPA or CPA firm with sufficient factual documentation to verify the applicant's attest qualification.

6.2(4) Any applicant or CPA who has been requested to submit to the board evidence of an applicant's attest experience and has refused to do so shall, upon request by the board, explain in writing or in person the basis for the refusal. The board may require any applicant or CPA who furnished the evidence of an applicant's experience to substantiate the information provided. An applicant may be required to appear before the board to supplement or verify evidence of experience. The board may inspect documentation relating to an applicant's claimed experience.

193A—6.3(542) Attest qualification.

6.3(1) Attest qualification is required before a CPA may perform attest services in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa. "Attest qualification" or "attest qualified" means that the CPA has satisfied the experience requirements of rule 193A—6.2(542).

6.3(2) All CPAs who held an individual permit to practice in Iowa at any point prior to July 1, 2002, are deemed to be attest qualified. Under Iowa law prior to July 1, 2002, CPAs were only issued an individual permit to practice if they verified qualification to perform attest services. Individual permits to practice were discontinued under Iowa law effective July 1, 2002.

6.3(3) From July 1, 2002, through June 30, 2009, applicants and Iowa CPAs have attained attest qualification from the board by verifying the required experience when applying for an initial CPA certificate or reciprocal certification, or by separately applying for attest qualification.

6.3(4) Beginning July 1, 2009, when the practice privilege provisions of Iowa Code chapter 542 become effective, attest qualification may be attained or established as follows:

a. Applicants may apply for attest qualification when initially applying for a certificate as an Iowa CPA under Iowa Code section 542.6, or when applying for reciprocal Iowa certification under Iowa Code section 542.19.

b. Iowa CPA certificate holders may apply for attest qualification at any time at which they are qualified to do so.

c. Out-of-state CPAs performing attest services while exercising a practice privilege under Iowa Code section 542.20 are not required to individually apply to the board for attest qualification, but the Iowa CPA firm in which such attest services are performed shall affirm when applying for an initial or renewal firm permit to practice that the CPAs who supervise attest services for the firm or who sign or authorize someone to sign the accountant's report on the financial statements on behalf of the firm, as such attest services are or will in the following year be performed in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa, have been qualified to perform attest services in Iowa or another jurisdiction.

193A—6.4(542) Compilation services.

6.4(1) Only a CPA licensed under Iowa Code section 542.6 or 542.19, an LPA licensed under Iowa Code section 542.8, or a person exercising a practice privilege under Iowa Code section 542.20 shall issue a report in standard form upon a compilation of financial information or otherwise provide compilation services in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa.

6.4(2) An individual described in subrule 6.4(1) may perform compilation services through a CPA firm which holds a permit to practice under Iowa Code section 542.7, an LPA firm which holds a permit to practice under Iowa Code section 542.8, a CPA firm exercising a practice privilege under Iowa Code section 542.20, or, if both the individual and business comply with the requirements of Iowa Code section 542.13(13), through any other form of business.

6.4(3) All individuals described in subrule 6.4(1) who are responsible for supervising compilation services or who will sign or authorize someone to sign the accountant's compilation report on financial statements, as such compilation services will be performed in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa, shall comply with the nationally recognized professional standards that are applicable to compilation services, including SSARS.

6.4(4) All individuals described in subrule 6.4(1) shall satisfy peer review requirements, individually or through the peer review of a CPA or LPA firm holding a permit to practice pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.7 or 542.8 or a CPA firm exercising a practice privilege under Iowa Code section 542.20.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 542.

CHAPTER 7 CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRMS

193A—7.1(542) When licensure is required.

7.1(1) A sole proprietorship, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or any other form of organization shall apply for a permit to practice as a firm of certified public accountants prior to:

a. Performing or offering to perform audit, review or other attest services in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa; or

b. Establishing an office in Iowa at which the firm uses the title "CPAs," "CPA firm," "certified public accountants," or "certified public accounting firm."

7.1(2) A firm which is not subject to subrule 7.1(1) may practice public accounting in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa without a permit issued by the board in conformance with Iowa Code section 542.20 and 193A—Chapter 21.

7.1(3) Unless individual Iowa licensure is required by the auditor of state, the department of agriculture and land stewardship, other governmental official or body, or a client, the public accounting services provided by a CPA firm holding an Iowa permit to practice may be performed in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa by Iowa CPAs or wholly by persons exercising a practice privilege under Iowa Code section 542.20.

7.1(4) If a CPA firm that is issued a permit to practice by the board has one or more offices in Iowa, the public accounting services performed at each such office must be supervised by an Iowa CPA with an unexpired certificate issued under Iowa Code section 542.6 or 542.19.

7.1(5) A CPA firm issued a permit to practice by the board is accountable to the board and subject to discipline by the board for the acts of its owners or other agents, pursuant to 193A—subrule 14.2(4), whether or not such persons are individually licensed by the board. In order to ensure public accountability, all CPA firms issued a permit to practice under Iowa Code section 542.7 shall:

a. Designate an Iowa CPA or a person with a practice privilege under Iowa Code section 542.20 who is responsible for the proper licensure of the firm and the firm's compliance with all applicable laws and rules of the state;

b. Designate an Iowa CPA or Iowa CPAs who are responsible for the proper registration of each Iowa office and each office's compliance with all applicable laws and rules of this state;

c. Designate an Iowa CPA or person with a practice privilege under Iowa Code section 542.20 who is responsible for supervising attest services or who will sign or authorize someone to sign the accountant's report on financial statements, as such attest services will be performed in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa; and

d. Designate an Iowa CPA or LPA or person with a practice privilege under Iowa Code section 542.20 who is responsible for supervising compilation services or who will sign or authorize someone to sign the accountant's compilation report on financial statements, as such compilation services will be performed in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa.

193A—7.2(542) Application process.

7.2(1) Application forms may be obtained from the board office or on the board's Web site. The board shall only process fully completed applications accompanied by the proper fee. A nonrefundable application fee shall be charged.

7.2(2) Fraud or deceit, by commission or omission, in obtaining a firm permit to practice is a ground for discipline, including permanent revocation of the firm's permit to practice, the individual certificate of an Iowa CPA, or an individual's practice privilege, as applicable to the entity or persons responsible.

7.2(3) An initial or renewal application for a firm permit to practice may be denied:

a. Upon any ground that would form a basis for discipline against the firm pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.10 or 193A—Chapter 14; or

b. Based on the firm's failure to comply with the requirements of Iowa Code section 542.7 including, but not limited to, a failure to make the designations described in subrule 7.1(5) or a failure to sustain the simple majority of ownership required by Iowa Code section 542.7(3).

193A—7.3(542) Application contents. Applicants for a firm permit to practice shall provide such information as the board may require, including:

7.3(1) The lawful name of the firm and any trade or assumed names, or aliases the firm will use in Iowa or when communicating with Iowans.

7.3(2) The legal form and jurisdiction of the firm's organization.

7.3(3) Contact information for the principal place of business of the firm and each Iowa office, including name, physical address, mailing address, telephone number, facsimile number, E-mail address, and Web-site address.

7.3(4) All jurisdictions in which the firm is licensed or has applied for licensure, all unexpired firm license numbers, and the expiration date of each license.

7.3(5) The names and contact information for all persons described in subrule 7.1(5), including name, title, physical address, mailing address, telephone number, facsimile number, E-mail address, jurisdiction of the person's principal place of business, and the certificate number and expiration date of the certificate held in the person's principal place of business.

7.3(6) The highest level of public accounting services offered by the firm, such as compilation or attest.

7.3(7) Evidence of satisfactory completion of the last firm peer review, when applicable.

7.3(8) The identity of all owners (e.g., partners, shareholders, or members) of the firm who perform professional services in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa, including sufficient information from which the board can determine that a simple majority of owners hold a CPA certificate under Iowa Code section 542.6 or 542.19 or hold a CPA certificate in another state and are eligible to exercise a practice privilege under Iowa Code section 542.20. The board may modify this requirement on the application form as warranted to secure only the information the board deems reasonably needed and may accept an affirmation, subject to audit. The board reserves the right to require at any time a full list, or a targeted sublist, such as a list of those persons who perform services from an Iowa office or those who perform attest or compilation services in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa.

7.3(9) The affirmation described in 193A—paragraph 6.3(4)“c.”

7.3(10) Affirmation that all CPAs who are responsible for supervising attest services for the CPA firm or who sign or authorize someone to sign the accountant’s report on the financial statements on behalf of the CPA firm satisfy the experience or competency requirements established by nationally recognized professional standards that are applicable to the attest services performed in Iowa or for clients with a home office in Iowa.

7.3(11) Affirmation that all CPAs or LPAs who are responsible for supervising compilation services or who sign or authorize someone to sign the accountant’s compilation report on the financial statements on behalf of the firm comply with nationally recognized professional standards that are applicable to the compilation services performed in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa.

7.3(12) Affirmation that all nonlicensee owners are active participants in the firm or affiliated entity.

7.3(13) Affirmation that the firm and its licensed or unlicensed owners will comply with all applicable Iowa laws and rules, including rules of professional conduct, when practicing in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa.

7.3(14) Details of any past denial, cancellation, revocation, suspension, refusal to renew, or voluntary surrender of a professional license of any kind, authority to practice, or practice privilege by the board or another state agency in any jurisdiction, a federal agency, or the PCAOB, regarding the firm and the firm’s current owners (e.g., partners, shareholders, or members).

7.3(15) Details of any past felony conviction or the conviction of any crime, any element of which is dishonesty or fraud, as provided in Iowa Code section 542.5(2), under the laws of any state or the United States, regarding the firm and the firm’s current owners (e.g., partners, shareholders, or members).

193A—7.4(542) Annual renewal of permit. Permits to practice must be renewed annually and shall expire on June 30 of each year. Applications to renew a permit to practice may be obtained from the board office or on the board’s Web site or through electronic on-line renewal. While the board generally mails a renewal notice in the May preceding permit expiration, neither the board’s failure to mail a notice nor a permit holder’s failure to receive a notice shall excuse the requirement to timely renew and pay the renewal fee.

193A—7.5(542) Renewal procedures.

7.5(1) The permit holder shall submit an electronic on-line renewal or file a timely and sufficient renewal application with the board by the June 30 deadline each year. Applications shall be deemed filed on the date of electronic renewal or when received by the board or, if mailed, on the date postmarked, but not the date metered.

7.5(2) The permit holder shall list on the renewal application all states in which the applicant has applied for or holds a permit as a certified public accounting firm and list any past denial, revocation, suspension, refusal to renew or voluntary surrender to avoid disciplinary action of a permit to practice or practice privilege. Renewal applications may request such additional information as the board requires, including all of the information described in rule 193A—7.3(542).

7.5(3) Within the meaning of Iowa Code chapters 17A, 272C and 542, a timely and sufficient renewal application shall be:

a. Received by the board in person or electronic form or postmarked with a nonmetered United States Postal Service postmark on or before the date the permit is set to expire or lapse;

b. Signed by the licensee in charge of the firm's practice if submitted in person or mailed, or certified as accurate if submitted electronically;

c. Fully completed and accompanied with the proper fee. The fee shall be deemed improper if, for instance, the amount is incorrect, the fee was not included with the application, the credit card number provided by the applicant is incorrect, the date of expiration of a credit card is omitted or incorrect, the attempted credit card transaction is rejected, or the applicant's check is returned for insufficient funds or a closed account.

193A—7.6(542) Failure to renew permit.

7.6(1) A firm that fails to renew the permit by the expiration date, but does so within 30 days following the expiration date, shall be assessed a penalty as provided in rule 193A—12.1(542).

7.6(2) If the firm fails to renew the permit within the 30-day grace period outlined in subrule 7.6(1), the permit will lapse and the firm shall be required to reinstate in accordance with subrule 7.6(3). The firm is not authorized to practice during the period of time that the permit is lapsed, including the 30-day grace period.

7.6(3) The board may reinstate the permit upon payment of the proper renewal fee and a penalty as provided in rule 193A—12.1(542). The board shall also require a written statement outlining the firm's professional activities during the period of lapsed licensure.

7.6(4) The board may find probable cause to file charges for unlicensed practice if the firm engaged in any activity that required licensure pursuant to 193A—subrule 7.1(1) during the period of lapsed licensure. In addition to the disciplinary sanctions described in rule 193A—16.3(272C,542), firms found to have practiced public accounting in violation of 193A—subrule 7.1(1) on a lapsed license will be required to notify clients upon such terms as the board shall order.

193A—7.7(542) Notices required. A holder of or applicant for a permit shall notify the board in writing within 30 days after an occurrence of any of the following:

7.7(1) A change in the identity of an owner (e.g., partner, shareholder, or member) who performs professional services in this state or for clients with a home office in this state. This is a statutory requirement the board will enforce consistent with the disclosures and affirmations required on initial and renewal application forms.

7.7(2) A change in the number or location of offices within this state.

7.7(3) A change in the identity of a person in charge of such offices.

7.7(4) The denial, revocation, suspension, refusal to renew, or voluntary surrender of a permit to practice, other professional license of any kind, authority to practice, or practice privilege by another state, a state agency in any jurisdiction, a federal agency, or the PCAOB, regarding the firm or any of the firm's owners (e.g., partners, shareholders, or members).

7.7(5) A change of physical or mailing address of the primary office of the firm or of any office located in Iowa, or of any person designated by the firm pursuant to 193A—subrule 7.1(5).

193A—7.8(542) Firms not in compliance with requirements. A firm that, after receiving or renewing a permit, is not in compliance with Iowa Code section 542.7 as a result of a change in firm ownership or personnel shall take corrective action to bring the firm back into compliance as quickly as possible or apply to modify or amend the permit. The board may grant a reasonable period of time, usually 90 days, for a firm to take such corrective action. Failure to comply within a reasonable period as deemed by the board shall result in the suspension or revocation of the firm permit.

193A—7.9(542) Peer review required. As a condition of renewal of a permit to practice as a certified public accounting firm, the firm shall undergo, at least once every three years, a peer review conducted under the provisions outlined in 193A—Chapter 11.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 17A, 272C and 542 and Iowa Code section 546.10.

CHAPTER 8
LICENSED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRMS

193A—8.1(542) Initial permit to practice.

8.1(1) A sole proprietorship, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or any other form of organization shall apply for a permit to practice under Iowa Code section 542.8 and these rules as a firm of licensed public accountants in order to use the title “LPAs” or “LPA firm.” A nonrefundable application fee shall be charged.

8.1(2) The application may be obtained from the board office or on the board’s Web site and shall list the names of all licensed or unlicensed owners, a simple majority of whom shall hold licenses issued under Iowa Code section 542.8 or certificates issued under Iowa Code section 542.6 or 542.19, be eligible to practice under practice privilege pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.20, or otherwise hold a license or certificate to practice public accounting in another state. At least one owner must be licensed under Iowa Code section 542.8.

8.1(3) The application shall list the name, title, physical address, mailing address, telephone number, facsimile number, E-mail address, jurisdiction(s) of individual licensure or certification, principal place of business, each license or certificate number, and the expiration date of each license or certificate of any licensee or practice privilege practitioner who is responsible for supervising compilation services and who signs or authorizes someone to sign the accountant’s report on financial statements on behalf of the firm. The application shall affirm that any licensee listed meets the competency requirements set forth in SSARS and holds a valid license or certificate issued under Iowa Code section 542.6, 542.8, or 542.19 or is eligible to exercise a practice privilege under Iowa Code section 542.20.

8.1(4) The application shall list the physical location and contact information (telephone number, E-mail address, facsimile number, and Web-site address) for all offices within this state and the licensee in charge of each such office. For each such designated licensee, the jurisdiction(s) of licensure, license or certificate number, and expiration date of each license or certificate shall also be listed.

8.1(5) Persons in charge of an office located in Iowa shall be licensed in Iowa under Iowa Code section 542.6, 542.8, or 542.19.

8.1(6) The application shall designate an individual who holds a valid license or certificate issued under Iowa Code section 542.6, 542.8 or 542.19 or who is eligible to exercise a practice privilege under Iowa Code section 542.20 as the person responsible for ensuring that the firm has complied with all of the requirements for a permit to practice, and shall provide contact and licensure information for such individual.

8.1(7) The application shall affirm that all nonlicensee owners are active participants in the firm or an affiliated entity.

8.1(8) The application shall affirm that all nonlicensee owners shall comply with all applicable rules of professional conduct.

8.1(9) The application for initial issuance of a permit shall list all states in which the applicant or any of the individuals described in subrules 8.1(2) to 8.1(5) have applied for or hold a permit as a licensed public accounting firm, certified public accounting firm, or individual license or certificate, and list any past denial, revocation, surrender, or suspension of a permit, license or certificate by another state.

8.1(10) The application shall list the names of any licensed or unlicensed owner who has been convicted of a felony or other crime described in Iowa Code section 542.5(2) or has had a professional license of any kind revoked in this or any other jurisdiction.

8.1(11) Fraud or deceit, by commission or omission, in obtaining a firm permit to practice is a ground for discipline, including permanent revocation of the firm’s permit to practice, the individual certificate of an Iowa LPA or CPA, or an individual’s practice privilege, as applicable to the entity or persons responsible.

8.1(12) An initial or renewal application for a firm permit to practice may be denied:

a. Upon any ground that would form a basis for discipline against the firm pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.10 or rule 193A—14.3(17A,272C,542) including, but not limited to, the regulatory and disciplinary actions and criminal convictions described in subrules 8.1(9) and 8.1(10);

b. Based on the firm's failure to comply with the requirements of Iowa Code section 542.8 including, but not limited to, a failure to make the designations described in subrules 8.1(3), 8.1(4), and 8.1(6), or a failure to sustain the simple majority of ownership required by Iowa Code section 542.8(12) "a"; or

c. Based on a regulatory or disciplinary action or criminal conviction described in subrules 8.1(9) and 8.1(10) against any of the firm's owners (e.g., partners, shareholders, or members).

193A—8.2(542) Annual renewal of permit. A permit issued under the provisions of Iowa Code section 542.8 shall be renewed annually by June 30 upon forms provided by the board. Applications to renew a permit to practice may be obtained from the board office or on the board's Web site or through electronic on-line renewal. While the board generally mails a renewal notice in the May preceding permit expiration, neither the board's failure to mail a notice nor a permit holder's failure to receive a notice shall excuse the requirement to timely renew and pay the renewal fee.

193A—8.3(542) Renewal procedures.

8.3(1) The permit holder shall submit an electronic on-line renewal or file a timely and sufficient renewal application with the board by the June 30 deadline each year. Applications shall be deemed filed on the date of electronic renewal or when received by the board or, if mailed, the date postmarked, but not the date metered.

8.3(2) The permit holder shall list on the renewal application all states in which the applicant has applied for or holds a permit as a licensed public accounting firm and list any past denial, revocation, suspension, refusal to renew or voluntary surrender to avoid disciplinary action of a permit. Permit holders shall notify the board in writing within 30 days after the occurrence of any issuance, denial, revocation, suspension or refusal to renew or voluntary surrender to avoid disciplinary action of a permit to practice as a licensed public accounting firm by another state. Renewal applications may request such additional information as the board requires of initial applicants.

8.3(3) Within the meaning of Iowa Code chapters 17A, 272C, and 542, a timely and sufficient renewal application shall be:

a. Received by the board in person or electronic form, or postmarked with a nonmetered United States Postal Service postmark on or before the date the permit is set to expire or lapse;

b. Signed by the licensee in charge of the firm's practice if submitted in person or mailed, or certified as accurate if submitted electronically;

c. Fully completed and accompanied with the proper fee. The fee shall be deemed improper if, for instance, the amount is incorrect, the fee was not included with the application, the credit card number provided by the applicant is incorrect, the date of expiration of a credit card is omitted or incorrect, the attempted credit card transaction is rejected, or the applicant's check is returned for insufficient funds or a closed account.

193A—8.4(542) Failure to renew permit.

8.4(1) A firm that fails to renew the permit by the expiration date, but does so within 30 days following the expiration date, shall be assessed a penalty of 25 percent of the annual renewal fee.

8.4(2) If the firm fails to renew the permit within the 30-day grace period outlined in subrule 8.4(1), the permit will lapse and the firm shall be required to reinstate in accordance with subrule 8.4(3). The firm is not authorized to practice as an LPA firm during the period of time that the permit is lapsed, including the 30-day grace period.

8.4(3) The board may reinstate the permit upon payment of the proper renewal fee and a penalty as provided in rule 193A—12.1(542). The board shall also require a written statement outlining the firm's professional activities during the period of lapsed licensure.

8.4(4) The board may find probable cause to file charges for unlicensed practice if the firm continues to offer services defined as the practice of accounting while using the title "LPAs" or "LPA firm" during the period of lapsed licensure.

193A—8.5(542) Notices required. A holder of or an applicant for a permit shall notify the board in writing within 30 days after an occurrence of any of the following:

8.5(1) A change in the identity of an owner (e.g., partner, shareholder, or member) who performs professional services in this state or for clients with a home office in this state. This is a statutory requirement the board will enforce consistent with the disclosures and affirmations required on initial and renewal application forms.

8.5(2) A change in the number or location of offices within this state.

8.5(3) A change in the identity of a person in charge of such offices.

8.5(4) The issuance, denial, revocation, suspension, refusal to renew, or voluntary surrender of a permit to practice, other professional license of any kind, authority to practice, or practice privilege by another state, or a state or federal agency in any jurisdiction, regarding the firm or any of the persons described in subrule 8.1(3), 8.1(4), or 8.1(6)

8.5(5) A change of physical or mailing address of the primary office of the firm or of any office located in Iowa or of any person designated by the firm pursuant to subrule 8.1(3), 8.1(4), or 8.1(6).

193A—8.6(542) Firms not in compliance with requirements. A firm which, after receiving or renewing a permit, is not in compliance with Iowa Code section 542.8 as a result of a change in firm ownership or personnel shall take corrective action to bring the firm back into compliance as quickly as possible or apply to modify or amend the permit. The board may grant a reasonable period of time, usually 90 days, for a firm to take such corrective action. Failure to comply within a reasonable period as deemed by the board shall result in the suspension or revocation of the firm permit.

193A—8.7(542) Peer review required. As a condition for renewal of a permit to practice as a licensed public accounting firm, the firm shall undergo, at least once every three years, a peer review conducted under the provisions outlined in 193A—Chapter 11.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 17A, 272C and 542 and Iowa Code section 546.10.

ITEM 13. Amend **193A—Chapter 9**, title, as follows:

RECIPROCITY AND SUBSTANTIAL EQUIVALENCY

ITEM 14. Amend rules **193A—9.1(79GA,ch55)** to **193A—9.7(79GA,ch55)**, parenthetical implementation, by striking “79GA,ch55” and inserting “542” in lieu thereof.

ITEM 15. Amend rule 193A—9.1(542) as follows:

193A—9.1(542) Iowa CPA certificate required. ~~Except as provided in 2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, section 7(1) or 13(11), a~~ A person who holds a certificate or license to practice as a CPA in another state or a substantially equivalent designation from a foreign jurisdiction ~~who may apply to the board for an Iowa CPA certificate and must do so if the person plans to practice public accounting as a CPA in Iowa or for Iowa clients or who otherwise desires to establish the person’s principal place of business as a CPA in Iowa must first apply to the board for an Iowa CPA certificate.~~

ITEM 16. Amend paragraphs **9.3(1)“d”** and **“e”** as follows:

d. The conviction of any felony or any crime described in Iowa Code section 542.5(2); and

e. The revocation of a professional license of any kind in this or any other jurisdiction; and

ITEM 17. Adopt the following new paragraph **9.3(1)“f”**:

f. Such additional information as the board may require to determine if grounds exist to deny certification under 193A—subrule 3.1(2).

ITEM 18. Amend rule 193A—9.4(542) as follows:

193A—9.4(542) Verification of state licensure. An applicant holding a CPA certificate or license from another state or states shall submit verification that the applicant’s CPA certificate or license is valid and in good standing in the state in which the applicant’s principal place of business is located. An applicant

applying for a CPA certificate under the substantial equivalency provisions of ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, section 19(1)(a)~~, Iowa Code section 542.19(1)“a” and paragraph 9.5(1)“a” may attach a letter of good standing to the application. Such letter of good standing shall be prepared by the state in which the applicant’s principal place of business is located and shall be dated within six months of the date of the application. To expedite the application process, the board will accept verification from another state’s board by facsimile or E-mail. The board reserves the right to request an original verification document directly from another state board.

ITEM 19. Amend subrules 9.5(1) and 9.5(2) as follows:

9.5(1) A person who holds in good standing a valid CPA certificate or license from another state shall be deemed qualified for an Iowa CPA certificate if the person satisfies one of the following three conditions:

a. Substantially equivalent state. The licensing standards on education, examination and experience of the state which issued the applicant’s CPA certificate or license were, at the time of licensure, comparable or superior to the education, examination and experience requirements of ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55~~, Iowa Code chapter 542 in effect at the time the application is filed in Iowa. The board may accept the determination of substantial equivalency made by the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy or may make an independent determination of substantial equivalency.

b. Individual substantial equivalency. The applicant’s individual qualifications on education, examination and experience are comparable or superior to the education, examination and experience requirements of ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55~~, Iowa Code chapter 542 in effect at the time the application is filed in Iowa.

c. “Four-in-ten rule.” The applicant satisfies all of the following:

(1) The applicant passed the examination required for issuance of the applicant’s certificate or license with grades that would have been passing grades at the time in this state.

(2) The applicant has had at least four years of experience within the ten years immediately preceding the application which occurred after the applicant passed the examination upon which the CPA certificate or license was based and which in the board’s opinion is substantially equivalent to that required by ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, section 5(12)~~ Iowa Code section 542.5(12).

(3) If the applicant’s CPA certificate or license was issued more than four years prior to the filing of the application in this state, the applicant has fulfilled the continuing professional education requirements described in ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, section 6(3)~~, Iowa Code section 542.6(3) and 193A—Chapter 10.

9.5(2) A person who holds in good standing a certificate, license or designation from a foreign authority that is substantially equivalent to an Iowa CPA certificate shall be deemed qualified for an Iowa CPA certificate if the person satisfies all of the provisions of ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, section 19(3)~~ Iowa Code section 542.19(3). The burden is on the applicant to demonstrate that such certificate, license or foreign designation is in full force and effect and that the requirements for that certificate, license or foreign designation are comparable or superior to those required for a CPA certificate in this state. Original verification from the foreign authority which issued the certificate, license or designation shall be required to demonstrate that such certificate, license or designation is valid and in good standing. If the applicant cannot establish comparable or superior qualifications, the board shall require that the applicant pass the uniform certified public accountant examination designed to test the applicant’s knowledge of practice in this state and country. If the applicant is a Canadian Chartered Accountant, Australian Chartered Accountant or Australian Certified Practicing Accountant, the applicant may be required to take the International Uniform CPA Qualification Examination (IQEX) in lieu of the uniform certified public accountant examination.

ITEM 20. Amend rule 193A—9.7(542) as follows:

193A—9.7(542) Expedited application processing. A person applying for a CPA certificate under the substantial equivalency provisions of ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, section 19(1)(a)~~, and paragraph ~~9.5(1)“a”~~ Iowa Code section 542.19(1)“a” often desires expedited application processing to facilitate

cross-border practice. Applications by such persons are especially suitable for rapid processing given the substantially equivalent standards previously enforced in another state. Unless such application reveals grounds to deny the application under subrule 9.3(2), the board is otherwise aware of such grounds, or the application is unaccompanied by the proper fee, the board's administrator shall approve an application which qualifies under ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, section 19(1)(a), and paragraph 9.5(1) "a"~~ Iowa Code section 542.19(1) "a" as rapidly as feasible and shall deem the effective date of approval to practice in Iowa to be the date the board received the completed application with timely letter of good standing in a substantially equivalent state.

ITEM 21. Amend **193A—Chapter 9**, implementation sentence, as follows:

These rules are intended to implement ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, section 19~~ Iowa Code section 542.19.

ITEM 22. Amend subrules 10.3(4) and 10.3(5) as follows:

10.3(4) An applicant who wishes to ~~restore~~ reinstate a lapsed or inactive certificate or license to active status must meet the basic requirement of 120 hours of continuing education earned in the preceding three-year period prior to the date of application to ~~restore active status~~ reinstate. The hours claimed to ~~restore~~ reinstate to active status cannot again be used at the next or subsequent renewal dates. At the first biennial renewal date of July 1 that is less than 12 months from the date of filing the application to ~~restore~~ reinstate the certificate or license to active status, the certificate or license holder shall not be required to report continuing education. At the biennial renewal date of July 1 which is more than 12 months, but less than 24 months, from the date of filing the application to ~~restore~~ reinstate the certificate or license to active status, the certificate or license holder shall report 40 hours of previously unreported continuing education earned in the one-year period ending December 31 prior to the July 1 renewal date. At the biennial renewal date of July 1 which is more than 24 months, but less than 36 months, from the date of filing the application to ~~restore~~ reinstate the certificate or license to active status, the certificate or license holder shall report 80 hours of continuing education earned in the two-year period ending December 31 prior to the July 1 renewal date.

10.3(5) A licensee shall be deemed to have complied with the requirements of rule 193A—10.3(542) if, for the period that the licensee is a resident of another state or district having a continuing education requirement, the licensee met the resident state's mandatory requirement. Additionally, if a licensee maintains the licensee's principal place of business outside Iowa, the licensee shall be deemed to have satisfied Iowa's continuing education requirements if the other jurisdiction maintains a mandatory requirement and the licensee satisfies the continuing education requirements of the jurisdiction of the licensee's principal place of business.

ITEM 23. Adopt the following new subrules 10.3(7) to 10.3(10):

10.3(7) The provisions of subrules 10.3(1) to 10.3(4) are applicable until individual licenses are transitioned to an annual renewal cycle as provided in rule 193A—5.3(542). Licensees whose last names begin with A through K shall first renew on an annual basis when their licenses are scheduled to expire on June 30, 2010. Licensees whose last names begin with L through Z shall first renew on an annual basis when their licenses are scheduled to expire on June 30, 2011.

10.3(8) For licensees whose initial application for a certificate or license is issued on an annual renewal basis, continuing education will be required on the following phased-in basis:

- a. No continuing education shall be required on the first annual renewal after initial licensure.
- b. 40 hours of continuing education shall be required in the one-year period ending December 1 prior to the second July 1 annual renewal date.
- c. 80 hours of continuing education shall be required in the two-year period ending December 1 prior to the third July 1 annual renewal date.
- d. 120 hours of continuing education shall be required in the three-year period ending December 1 prior to the fourth and subsequent July 1 annual renewal dates.

10.3(9) Licensees who apply to reinstate a lapsed or inactive certificate or license to active status pursuant to 193A—subrule 5.6(3) or 5.9(7) shall satisfy the basic requirement of 120 hours of continuing education earned in the preceding three-year period prior to the date of the application to reinstate on an

annual renewal schedule, modified as needed to incorporate the phase-in schedule for initial licensees described in subrule 10.3(8). Once the certificate or license is reinstated, the following schedule shall apply:

a. No continuing education shall be required on the first annual renewal after reinstatement of a lapsed or inactive certificate or license to active status.

b. 40 hours of continuing education that has not previously been reported shall be required in the one-year period ending December 1 prior to the second July 1 annual renewal date following reinstatement to active status.

c. 80 hours of continuing education that has not previously been reported shall be required in the two-year period ending December 1 prior to the third July 1 annual renewal date following reinstatement to active status.

d. 120 hours of continuing education shall be required in the three-year period ending December 1 prior to the fourth and subsequent July 1 annual renewal dates following reinstatement to active status.

10.3(10) Licensees are cautioned that adhering to the phase-in schedules provided in this rule may or may not satisfy other standards applicable to the licensee's practice, such as "yellow book" standards applicable to the performance of attest services involving government audits. Each licensee is responsible for ensuring that all continuing education requirements that are applicable to the licensee's practice are satisfied.

ITEM 24. Amend rule 193A—10.5(542) as follows:

193A—10.5(542) Mandatory education required.

10.5(1) In each ~~biennial~~ renewal period in which compilation reports are issued, every CPA certificate holder or LPA license holder who is responsible for supervising compilation services or who signs or authorizes someone to sign the accountant's compilation report on the financial statements on behalf of a firm shall complete, as a condition of certificate or license renewal, a minimum of seven hours of continuing education devoted to financial statement presentation, such as courses covering the statements on standards for accounting and review services (SSARS) and accounting and auditing updates. When required, the financial statement presentation continuing education shall be completed within the two-year period ending on the December 31 preceding the application for biennial or annual certificate or license renewal. For credit to be claimed for a course covering multiple topics, a minimum of one hour as outlined in subrule 10.4(1) shall be devoted to financial statement presentation and credit shall be claimed as one contact hour of credit for each hour of participation devoted to each particular topic. For example, if a seminar or presentation is conducted for a total of four hours and only one hour is devoted to financial statement presentation, then only one hour shall be claimed toward meeting the requirement of this subrule.

10.5(2) Every CPA certificate holder or LPA license holder shall complete a minimum of four hours of continuing education devoted to ethics and rules of professional conduct during the two-year period ending December 31, prior to the July 1 annual or biennial renewal date, as applicable. For a course to qualify to meet this requirement, the course description shall clearly outline the subject matter covered as professional or business ethics. If credit is to be claimed for a course covering multiple topics, a minimum of one-half hour as outlined in subrule 10.4(1) shall be devoted to business or professional ethics and credit shall be claimed as one contact hour, or after the first one hour, one-half hour of credit for each hour or one-half hour of participation devoted to each particular topic. For example, if a seminar or presentation is conducted for a total of four hours and only one hour is devoted to business or professional ethics, then only one hour shall be claimed toward meeting the requirement of this subrule. The first requirement shall be completed by December 31, 2007, for individuals whose renewal date is July 1, 2008, and December 31, 2008, for individuals whose renewal date is July 1, 2009.

ITEM 25. Adopt the following new rule 193A—10.8(542):

193A—10.8(542) Grounds for discipline. A licensee or an applicant is subject to discipline, including permanent revocation, if the licensee or applicant provides false information to the board in connection

with an application to renew or reinstate a certificate or license. A licensee or an applicant is also subject to discipline if the licensee or applicant is unable to document the continuing education hours reported to the board in connection with an audit or other request for documentation. False information of this nature will subject the licensee or applicant to discipline whether the false information was supplied intentionally or with reckless disregard for the truth or accuracy of the number of hours claimed. Licensees and applicants are accordingly cautioned to supply the board with accurate continuing education information.

ITEM 26. Amend rules **193A—11.1(79GA,ch55)** to **193A—11.5(79GA,ch55)**, parenthetical implementation, by striking “79GA,ch55” and inserting “542” in lieu thereof.

ITEM 27. Amend rules 193A—11.2(542), 193A—11.3(542) and 193A—11.5(542) as follows:

193A—11.2(542) How often required. During the three-year period ending December 31 preceding the application for renewal of a certificate, license, or permit to practice, the individual licensee or firm shall have completed a peer review in accordance with this chapter. A peer review shall be completed no less often than once every three years.

193A—11.3(542) System of internal quality control. If the firm has not issued reports on financial statements prior to the application for renewal, the firm shall have in place a system of internal quality control prior to the commencement of a financial reporting engagement, and shall come into compliance with the peer review requirement within 18 months of completion of a financial reporting engagement.

193A—11.5(542) Waiver of peer review requirement. At the time of renewal a licensee or firm may request, in writing upon a form provided by the board, a waiver from the requirements of this chapter, as provided in ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, sections 7(9) and 8(19)~~ Iowa Code sections 542.7(9) and 542.8(19).

ITEM 28. Adopt the following new rule 193A—11.6(542):

193A—11.6(542) Submission of peer review reports. Unless the subject of a peer review timely objects in writing to the administering entity of the peer review program, the administering entity shall make available to the board within 30 days of the issuance of the peer review acceptance letter the final peer review report or such peer review records as are designated by the peer review program in which the administering entity participates. The subject of a peer review may voluntarily submit the final peer review report directly to the board.

ITEM 29. Amend **193A—Chapter 11**, implementation sentence, as follows:

These rules are intended to implement ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55~~ Iowa Code chapter 542.

ITEM 30. Rescind 193A—Chapter 12 and adopt the following new chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 12

FEES

193A—12.1(542) Required fees. The following is a schedule of the fees for examinations, certificates, licenses, permits and renewals adopted by the board:

Initial CPA examination application:

Paid directly to CPA examination services	not to exceed \$1500
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Reexamination:

Paid directly to CPA examination services	not to exceed \$1500
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Original issuance of CPA certificate or LPA license by examination (fee includes wall certificate)	\$100
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Original issuance of CPA certificate by reciprocity or substantial equivalency	\$100
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CPA wall certificate or LPA license issued by reciprocity or substantial equivalency	\$50
Replacement of lost or destroyed wall CPA certificate or LPA license	\$50
Original issuance of attest qualification	\$100
Biennial renewal of CPA certificate or LPA license—active status	\$100
Late renewal of CPA certificate or LPA license within 30-day grace period (July 1 to July 30)—active status	\$25
Biennial renewal of CPA certificate or LPA license—inactive status	\$50
Late renewal of CPA certificate or LPA license within 30-day grace period (July 1 to July 30)—inactive status	\$10
Penalty for failure to comply with continuing education requirements	\$50 to \$250
Original issuance of firm permit to practice	\$50
Annual renewal of firm permit to practice	\$50

The board has not yet established a fee schedule for annual renewals commencing with certificates and licenses that expire on and after June 30, 2010, and will amend the rules when the revised fee schedule is available.

193A—12.2(542) Reinstatement.

12.2(1) *Reinstatement of a lapsed CPA certificate or LPA license.* The fee for reinstatement of a lapsed CPA certificate or LPA license is \$100 plus the renewal fee for applications to reinstate filed on or before June 30, 2009. The fee for the reinstatement of a lapsed CPA certificate or LPA license for applications filed on or after July 1, 2009, is the renewal fee plus \$25 per month of expired registration up to a maximum of \$1,000.

12.2(2) *Reinstatement of lapsed firm permit to practice.* The fee for reinstatement of a lapsed CPA or LPA firm permit to practice is \$100 plus the renewal fee for applications to reinstate filed on or before June 30, 2009. The fee for the reinstatement of a lapsed CPA or LPA firm permit to practice for applications filed on or after July 1, 2009, is the renewal fee plus \$25 per month of expired registration up to a maximum of \$1,000.

193A—12.3(542) Prorating of certain fees.

12.3(1) Fees for issuance of an original certificate or license for less than one year to the biennial renewal date as provided in rule 193A—5.1(542) may be prorated on an annual basis for the remainder of time covered by the certificate or license. For example, if a CPA certificate or LPA license holder applies for the original certificate or license and is required to renew the certificate or license in 12 months or less, the fee would be \$50. If the original certificate or license is not scheduled to be renewed for more than 12 months, the fee would be \$100.

12.3(2) Fees for the issuance of an original CPA certificate or LPA license, pursuant to rule 193A—5.3(542), or the issuance of an initial permit to practice to a CPA or LPA firm, pursuant to rule 193A—7.1(542), will not be prorated.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 542.

ITEM 31. Amend rule 193A—13.3(542), catchwords, as follows:

193A—13.3(542) Independence, integrity ~~and~~, objectivity and conflicts of interest.

ITEM 32. Amend subrule **13.3(1)**, introductory paragraph, as follows:

13.3(1) *Independence.* A CPA or LPA or firm of which a CPA or LPA is an owner (e.g., partner, officer, shareholder, or member or manager) shall not issue a report on financial statements of a client in such a manner as to imply that the CPA or LPA is acting as an independent public accountant with

respect thereto unless the CPA or LPA is independent with respect to such client. Independence will be considered to be impaired if, for example:

ITEM 33. Amend subrule 13.3(2) as follows:

13.3(2) *Integrity ~~and~~, objectivity, and conflicts of interest.*

a. A CPA or LPA shall not, in the performance of professional services, knowingly misrepresent facts, subordinate judgment to others, or allow professional judgment and objectivity to be impaired by self-interest or by a conflict of interest between the licensee and a client or between clients. In tax practice, however, a CPA or LPA may resolve doubt in favor of the client as long as there is reasonable support for this position.

b. When faced with a conflict of interest that impairs or may impair professional judgment and objectivity, the licensee shall decline or cease the engagement, take steps to remove the conflict or, when reasonably feasible and appropriate under the circumstances and consistent with independence requirements, disclose the conflict or potential conflict and secure informed consent to proceed with the engagement from all clients. In no event, however, shall a licensee proceed with an engagement through informed consent when the nature of the conflict impairs the licensee's objectivity, whether or not the client or clients consent.

c. A conflict of interest may arise, for instance, when a licensee represents multiple clients whose interests are adverse to each other. Whether a licensee can provide competent, diligent, and objective representation to clients whose interests are or may be adverse to each other's interests or the interests of the licensee, with informed consent, will depend on the factual circumstances of the engagement. Licensees are cautioned that, when in doubt as to whether informed consent will effectively address an actual or potential conflict of interest, the most prudent course is to decline or cease the engagement and to advise one or more of multiple clients to seek alternative professional representation.

ITEM 34. Amend subrule 13.6(1) as follows:

13.6(1) *Acts discreditable.* A CPA or LPA shall not commit any act that reflects adversely on the CPA's or LPA's fitness to engage in the practice of public accountancy. The board may consider discipline by any other agency or jurisdiction when determining probable cause to take action against a CPA or LPA for acts discreditable. Conduct discreditable to the public accounting profession is further defined in 193A—subrule 14.3(12).

ITEM 35. Amend subparagraph **13.6(7)“d”(2)** as follows:

(2) ~~Any crime, including a~~ misdeemeanor if an essential element of the offense is dishonesty, deceit or fraud, as further described in Iowa Code section 542.5(2).

ITEM 36. Amend subrule 13.6(8) as follows:

13.6(8) *Firm's duty to report.* The CPA or LPA designated by each firm ~~in accordance with Iowa Code section 542.7(3)“b”(1) or 542.8(12)“b”(1) and these rules as the licensee responsible for the proper registration of the firm~~ as responsible for the proper licensure of the firm or registration of an office of the firm shall report any matter reportable under this rule to which a nonlicensee owner with a principal place of business in this state is a party.

ITEM 37. Rescind 193A—Chapter 14 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 14

DISCIPLINARY AUTHORITY AND GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINE

193A—14.1(17A,272C,542) Disciplinary authority. The board is empowered to administer Iowa Code chapters 17A, 272C and 542 and related administrative rules for the protection and well-being of those persons who may rely upon licensed individuals and firms for the performance of public accounting services within this state or for clients in this state. To perform these functions, the board is broadly vested with authority to review and investigate alleged acts or omissions of licensees, determine whether disciplinary proceedings are warranted, initiate and prosecute disciplinary proceedings, establish standards of professional conduct, and impose discipline, pursuant to Iowa Code sections 17A.13, 272C.3 to 272C.6, 272C.10, 542.4, and 542.10 to 542.16.

193A—14.2(17A,272C,542) Disciplinary policy.

14.2(1) In exercising its disciplinary authority and in construing the meaning of the phrase “conduct discreditable to the public accounting profession” as used in Iowa Code section 542.10, subsection 1, paragraph “i,” the board shall be guided by the legislative policies, goals and standards set forth in Iowa Code section 542.2.

14.2(2) The board’s disciplinary policy rests upon the premise that the reliance of the public in general and of the business community in particular on sound financial reporting, and on the implication of professional competence inherent in the authorized use of a legally restricted title relating to the practice of public accountancy, imposes on persons and firms engaged in such practice certain obligations both to their clients and to the public. These obligations include the obligation to maintain independence of thought and action; to strive continuously to improve one’s professional skills; to observe, where applicable, generally accepted accounting principles, generally accepted auditing standards, and similar principles and standards; to promote sound and informative financial reporting; to hold the affairs of clients in confidence; and to maintain high standards of personal conduct in all matters affecting one’s fitness to practice public accountancy.

14.2(3) The public interest requires that persons professing special competence in accountancy or offering assurance as to the reliability or fairness of presentation of such information shall have demonstrated their qualifications to do so, and that persons who have not demonstrated and maintained such qualifications not be permitted to represent themselves as having such special competence or to offer such assurance; that the conduct of persons licensed as having special competence in accountancy be regulated in all aspects of their professional work; that a public authority competent to prescribe and assess the qualifications and to regulate the conduct of licensees be established; and that the use of titles that have a capacity or tendency to deceive the public as to the status or competence of the persons using such titles be prohibited.

14.2(4) A CPA or LPA firm is subject to discipline for its own violations of Iowa Code chapter 542 and administrative rules and the violations of the firm’s CPAs, LPAs, nonlicensee owners, persons acting or purporting to act under a practice privilege, and others performing professional services on the firm’s behalf. Whether a CPA or LPA firm will be charged based on the acts of such individuals will depend on the circumstances. Among the factors the board will consider are whether the firm took reasonable steps to prevent the violation, whether the violation was or could have been discovered by the firm upon reasonable inquiry, what steps the firm took upon discovering the violation, whether the acts or omissions involved licensees of the board or were committed by persons who are not individually licensed by the board, the nature of the services at issue, and whether the violations are isolated matters or more systemic to the firm’s performance.

193A—14.3(17A,272C,542) Grounds for discipline. The board may initiate disciplinary action against a CPA or LPA, or a firm of CPAs or LPAs, which holds an active, inactive or lapsed certificate, license or permit to practice on any of the following grounds:

14.3(1) *Fraud or deceit in procuring a license.* Fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure an initial, reciprocal, renewal, or reinstated certificate, license, or permit to practice includes any intentional perversion of the truth when submitting an application to the board, or when submitting information in support of another’s application to the board, including:

- a.* False representation of a material fact, whether by word or by conduct, by false or misleading allegation, or by concealment of that which should have been disclosed.
- b.* Attempting to file or filing with the board any false or forged record or document, such as a college transcript, diploma or degree, examination report, verification of licensure, continuing education certificate, or verification of peer review.
- c.* Failing or refusing to provide complete information in response to a question on an application.
- d.* Reporting information, such as satisfaction of continuing education, peer review, or attest qualification, in a false manner through overt deceit or with reckless disregard for the truth or accuracy of the information asserted.
- e.* Otherwise participating in any form of fraud or misrepresentation by act or omission.

14.3(2) Professional incompetence. Professional incompetence includes, but is not limited to:

- a. A substantial lack of knowledge or ability to discharge professional obligations within the practice of public accounting.
- b. A substantial deviation from the standards of learning or skill ordinarily possessed and applied by other practitioners in the state of Iowa acting in the same or similar circumstances.
- c. A failure to exercise the degree of care which is ordinarily exercised by the average practitioner acting in the same or similar circumstances.
- d. Failure to conform to the minimum standards of acceptable and prevailing practice of public accounting in this state.
- e. A willful, repeated, or material deviation from generally accepted engagement standards, generally accepted accounting standards, generally accepted auditing standards, or any other nationally recognized standard applicable to the public accounting services at issue, as provided in rule 193A—13.4(542).
- f. Any other act or omission that demonstrates an inability to safely practice in a manner protective of the public's interest.

14.3(3) Deceptive practices. Deceptive practices are grounds for discipline, whether or not actual injury is established, and include:

- a. Knowingly making misleading, deceptive, untrue or fraudulent representations in the practice of public accounting.
- b. Use of untruthful or improbable statements in advertisements. Use of untruthful or improbable statements in advertisements includes, but is not limited to, an action by a licensee in making information or intention known to the public which is false, deceptive, misleading or promoted through fraud or misrepresentation.
- c. Acceptance of any fee by fraud or misrepresentation.
- d. Falsification of business or client records.
- e. Submission of false or misleading reports or information to the board including information supplied in an audit of continuing education, reports submitted as a condition of probation, or any reports identified in this rule or 193A—Chapter 18.
- f. Knowingly presenting as one's own a certificate, license, or permit to practice, or a certificate, license, or permit number, or the signature of another or of a fictitious licensee, or otherwise falsely impersonating a person holding a CPA certificate or LPA license, or a permit to practice as a firm of CPAs or LPAs.
- g. Representing oneself as a CPA, LPA, CPA firm, or LPA firm when the certificate, license, or permit to practice has been suspended, revoked, surrendered, or placed on inactive status, or has lapsed, except as allowed under Iowa Code section 542.20.
- h. Fraud in representations as to skill or ability.

14.3(4) Unethical, harmful or detrimental conduct. Licensees engaging in unethical conduct or practices harmful or detrimental to the public may be disciplined whether or not injury is established. Behaviors and conduct which are unethical, harmful or detrimental to the public may include, but are not limited to, the following actions:

- a. Verbal or physical abuse, or improper sexual contact, if such behavior occurs within the practice of public accounting or if such behavior otherwise provides a reasonable basis for the board to conclude that such behavior within the practice of public accounting would place the public at risk.
- b. A violation of a rule of professional conduct relating to improper conflicts of interest, or lack of integrity, objectivity or independence, as provided in rule 193A—13.3(542).
- c. A violation of a provision of Iowa Code section 542.13, or aiding or abetting any unlawful activity for which a civil penalty can be imposed under Iowa Code sections 542.13 and 542.14.

14.3(5) Lack of proper qualifications. Lack of proper qualifications includes, but is not limited to:

- a. Continuing to practice as a CPA or LPA without satisfying the continuing education required for certificate or license renewal.
- b. Continuing to perform attest services or compilation services without timely completion of peer review.

c. Performing attest services as an individual without proper certification or attest qualification, or without acting through a CPA firm holding a permit to practice pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.7.

d. Performing attest services as a firm without holding a permit to practice pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.7, or without ensuring that the individuals responsible for supervising attest services or signing or authorizing someone to sign the accountant's report on financial statements are attest qualified, hold the required certification or are eligible to exercise a practice privilege, or otherwise performing attest services in a manner inconsistent with Iowa Code chapter 542 and 193A—Chapters 6 and 7.

e. Habitual intoxication or addiction to the use of drugs, or impairment which adversely affects the CPA's or LPA's ability to practice in a safe and competent manner.

f. Any act, conduct, or condition, including lack of education or experience and careless or intentional acts or omissions, that demonstrates a lack of qualifications which are necessary to ensure a high standard of professional care as provided in Iowa Code section 272C.3(2) "b," or that impairs a practitioner's ability to safely and skillfully practice the profession.

14.3(6) *Negligence in the practice of public accounting.* Negligence in the practice of public accounting includes the following acts, practices, or omissions, whether or not injury results:

a. Failure or refusal without good cause to exercise reasonable diligence in the practice of public accounting.

b. A failure to exercise due care including negligent delegation of duties in the practice of public accounting.

c. Neglect of contractual or other duties to a client.

14.3(7) *Professional misconduct.* Professional misconduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

a. Violation of a generally accepted engagement standard, generally accepted accounting standard, generally accepted auditing standard, or any other nationally recognized standard applicable to the public accounting services at issue, as provided in rule 193A—13.4(542), or any other violation of a provision of 193A—Chapter 13.

b. Violation of a regulation or law of this state, another state, the United States, or the PCAOB in the practice of public accounting.

c. Engaging in any conduct that subverts or attempts to subvert a board investigation of a licensed or unlicensed firm, individual, or other entity, or failure to fully cooperate with a disciplinary investigation of a licensee or with an investigation of firms, individuals or other entities that are not licensed by the board, including, without limitation, failure to comply with a subpoena issued by the board or to respond to a board inquiry within 30 calendar days of the date of mailing by certified mail of a written communication directed to the licensee's last address on file at the board office.

d. Revocation, suspension, or other disciplinary action taken against a licensee or person or firm exercising a practice privilege by a licensing authority of this state or another state, territory, or country. A stay by an appellate court shall not negate this requirement; however, if such disciplinary action is overturned or reversed by a court of last resort, discipline by the board based solely on such action shall be vacated.

e. Suspension or revocation of the right to practice before any state or federal agency, or the PCAOB.

f. A violation of Iowa Code section 542.17 (confidential communication).

g. A violation of Iowa Code section 542.18 (licensees' working papers—client records).

h. Violating or aiding and abetting another's violation of Iowa Code section 542.13 or 542.20.

i. Violation of the terms of an initial agreement with the impaired practitioner review committee or violation of the terms of an impaired practitioner recovery contract with the impaired practitioner review committee.

j. A violation of a practice privilege afforded to an Iowa licensee in another state.

k. Engaging in the practice of public accounting on a lapsed or inactive certificate, license or permit when the acts or practices require active Iowa licensure and, in the case of a firm, allowing such acts or practices by firm CPAs or LPAs.

14.3(8) *Willful or repeated violations.* The willful or repeated violation or disregard of any provision of Iowa Code chapter 272C or 542 or any administrative rule adopted by the board in the administration or enforcement of such chapters.

14.3(9) *Failure to report.*

- a. Failure by a CPA firm to timely report as provided in rule 193A—7.7(542).
- b. Failure of an LPA firm to timely report as provided in rule 193A—8.5(542).
- c. Failure to timely report judgments and settlements and reportable violations by others as provided in 193A—Chapter 18.
- d. Failure to report in writing to the board any issuance, denial, revocation, or suspension of a license by another state, or the voluntary surrender of a license to resolve a pending disciplinary investigation or action, within 30 calendar days of the licensing authority's final action.
- e. Failure to report the conviction of any felony, or a crime described in Iowa Code section 542.5(2), within 30 calendar days of the conviction.
- f. Failure to report to the board a change in the licensee's physical or mailing address within 30 calendar days of the change.
- g. Failure to report as provided in 193A—subrules 13.6(7) and 13.6(8).

14.3(10) *Failure to comply with board order.* Failure to comply with the terms of a board order or the terms of a settlement agreement or consent order, or other decision of the board imposing discipline.

14.3(11) *Conviction of a crime.* Conviction, in this state or any other jurisdiction, of any felony, or of any crime described in Iowa Code section 542.5(2). A copy of the record of conviction or plea of guilty shall be conclusive evidence. "Conviction" shall include any plea of guilty or nolo contendere, including Alford pleas, or finding of guilt whether or not judgment or sentence is deferred or suspended, and whether or not the conviction is on appeal. If such conviction is overturned or reversed by a court of last resort, discipline by the board based solely on the conviction shall be vacated.

14.3(12) *Conduct discreditable to the accounting profession.* Conduct discreditable to the accounting profession includes any act or practice that diminishes the public's confidence in the profession, impairs the credibility of the profession, or otherwise compromises the public's trust. While it is not possible to list all conduct that is discreditable to the accounting profession, the following list provides an illustrative range of acts or practices that are implicated:

- a. Dishonesty in business or financial affairs, or a pattern of fiscal irresponsibility.
- b. Placement on the sex offender registry.
- c. Securities fraud or violation of the Iowa consumer fraud Act.
- d. Willful or repeated failure to timely file tax returns or other tax documents.
- e. False testimony in a court or administrative proceeding, or affidavit, or otherwise under oath.
- f. Providing false or misleading information to a financial institution or governmental body or official.
- g. Stating or implying an ability to improperly influence a government agency or official, or attempting to do so through deception, bribery or other unlawful means.
- h. Violation of a breach of fiduciary duty when acting in the capacity of a trustee, conservator, or other fiduciary, or as the professional advisor to a fiduciary.
- i. Any violation of Iowa Code chapter 542 or administrative rules that involves dishonesty, bad faith, or unethical behavior.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 17A, 272C and 542 and Iowa Code section 546.10.

ITEM 38. Amend subrule 15.7(1) as follows:

15.7(1) *General provisions.* All complaint and investigative information received or created by the board is privileged and confidential pursuant to Iowa Code section 272C.6(4). Such information shall not be released to any person except as provided in that section and this rule.

ITEM 39. Adopt the following **new** subrule 15.7(3):

15.7(3) Disclosure to the subject of the investigation.

a. *Legal authority.* Pursuant to Iowa Code section 546.10(9), the board may supply to a licensee who is the subject of a disciplinary complaint or investigation, prior to the initiation of a disciplinary proceeding, all or such parts of a disciplinary complaint, disciplinary or investigatory file, report, or other information, as the board in its sole discretion believes would aid the investigation or resolution of the matter.

b. *General rule.* As a matter of general policy, the board shall not disclose confidential complaint and investigative information to a licensee except as permitted by Iowa Code section 272C.6(4). Disclosure of a complainant's identity in advance of the filing of formal disciplinary charges, for instance, may adversely affect a complainant's willingness to file a complaint with the board.

c. *Exceptions to general rule.* The board may exercise its discretion to release information to a licensee that would otherwise be confidential under Iowa Code section 272C.6(4) under narrow circumstances, including but not limited to the following:

(1) Following a board determination that probable cause exists to file disciplinary charges against a licensee and prior to the issuance of the notice of hearing, the board may provide the licensee with a peer review or investigative report or expert opinions, as reasonably needed for the licensee to assess the merits of a settlement proposal.

(2) The board may release to a licensee who is the subject of a board-initiated investigation, including investigations initiated following the board's receipt of an anonymous complaint, such records or information as may aid the investigation or resolution of the matter.

(3) The board may release information from a peer review or consultant's report when the soliciting of the licensee's position will aid in making the probable cause determination and such disclosure can be made to the licensee without revealing identifying information regarding the complainant, peer reviewer or consultant.

ITEM 40. Amend rules **193A—16.1(17A,272C,79GA,ch55)** to **193A—16.5(272C,79GA,ch55)**, parenthetical implementation, by striking "79GA,ch55" and inserting "542" in lieu thereof.

ITEM 41. Amend rule 193A—16.2(17A,272C,542) as follows:

193A—16.2(17A,272C,542) Disciplinary contested case procedures. Unless in conflict with a provision of ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55~~, Iowa Code chapter 542 or board rules in this chapter, all of the procedures set forth in 193—Chapter 7 shall apply to disciplinary contested cases initiated by the board.

ITEM 42. Amend subparagraph **16.3(1)“d”(1)** as follows:

(1) The board may require the licensee to undergo a quality review or ~~peer desk~~ review under the board's supervision. The licensee shall select, subject to approval by the board, a CPA, LPA, or a firm of CPAs or LPAs, ~~or a review program which would qualify as a peer review program under 193A—Chapters 11 and 12.~~ The costs of the review shall be paid by the licensee. The board shall be furnished a copy of the report issued by the reviewing party and may require remedial actions or education as a result of the report findings.

ITEM 43. Amend paragraphs **16.3(1)“g”** and **“i”** as follows:

g. Impose civil penalties, the amount of which shall be at the discretion of the board, but which shall not exceed \$1,000 per violation, or after June 30, 2009, \$10,000 per violation for a firm. Civil penalties may be imposed for any of the disciplinary violations specified in rule 193A—14.2(17A,272C,542).

i. Order the licensee to alter a professional practice or refrain from engaging in a particular act or practice in the future, notify clients of unlicensed or unprofessional conduct, or take such other remedial measures that are appropriate under the public interest and circumstances of the infraction.

ITEM 44. Adopt the following **new** paragraph **16.3(1)“j”**:

j. Order such alternative discipline as is allowed by law.

ITEM 45. Amend paragraph **16.3(5)“n”** as follows:

n. Whether the licensee improperly used a title restricted by ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55~~ Iowa law or rules, performed attest services or issued a compilation report when not properly licensed to do so, or with a lapsed, inactive, suspended, restricted or revoked license engaged in practices which require licensure.

ITEM 46. Amend subrule 16.4(3) as follows:

16.4(3) The board shall notify other state boards of accountancy that have issued a similar license to an Iowa licensee of disciplinary action taken against the Iowa licensee. The board shall also notify the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy of disciplinary action taken against an Iowa licensee, and may notify additional bodies, such as other state agencies, federal agencies, and the PCAOB.

ITEM 47. Amend subrule 16.5(2) as follows:

16.5(2) Any person whose license has been revoked, suspended or restricted by the board, or who has voluntarily surrendered a license to conclude a disciplinary investigation or proceeding, or whose application to renew a license has been denied may apply to the board to modify or terminate the suspension, issue or reissue the license, or modify or remove the restriction in accordance with ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, section 12~~ Iowa Code section 542.12, rule 193—7.38(17A,272C), the provisions of this rule, and the terms of the order of revocation, suspension or restriction, denial of license renewal, or acceptance of voluntary surrender of a license.

ITEM 48. Amend **193A—Chapter 16**, implementation sentence, as follows:

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 17A ~~and~~ 272C and ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55~~ 542.

ITEM 49. Amend rules **193A—17.1(79GA,ch55)** to **193A—17.7(79GA,ch55)**, parenthetical implementation, by striking “79GA,ch55” and inserting “542” in lieu thereof.

ITEM 50. Amend rules 193A—17.1(542) to 193A—17.4(17A,542) as follows:

193A—17.1(542) Civil penalties against nonlicensees. The board may order compliance with Iowa Code chapter 542 and board rules, revoke a practice privilege, and impose civil penalties by order against a person who firm, other entity, or individual that is not licensed by the board pursuant to ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55~~ Iowa Code chapter 542, based on the unlawful practices specified in ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, section 13~~ Iowa Code sections 542.13 and 542.20. In addition to the procedures set forth in ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, section 14~~ Iowa Code section 542.14, this chapter shall apply.

193A—17.2(17A,542) Investigations. The board is authorized by Iowa Code subsection 17A.13(1) and ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, section 11~~, Iowa Code section 542.11 to conduct such investigations as are needed to determine whether grounds exist to impose civil penalties against a nonlicensee. Such investigations shall conform to the procedures outlined in 193A—Chapter 15. Complaint and investigatory files concerning nonlicensees are not confidential except as may be provided in Iowa Code chapter 22.

193A—17.3(17A,542) Notice of intent to impose civil penalties. The notice of the board’s intent to issue an order to require compliance with ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, section 13~~, Iowa Code chapter 542 and board rules and to impose a civil penalty shall be served upon the nonlicensee by restricted certified mail, return receipt requested, or personal service in accordance with Iowa R. Civ. P. 1.305. Alternatively, the nonlicensee may accept service personally or through authorized counsel. The notice shall include the following:

1. A statement of the legal authority and jurisdiction under which the proposed civil penalty would be imposed.
2. Reference to the particular sections of the statutes and rules involved.
3. A short, plain statement of the alleged unlawful practices.

4. The dollar amount of the proposed civil penalty ~~and~~, the nature of the intended order to require compliance with ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, section 13~~ Iowa Code chapter 542 and board rules, and whether a practice privilege will be revoked.

5. Notice of the nonlicensee's right to a hearing and the time frame in which hearing must be requested.

6. The address to which written request for hearing must be made.

193A—17.4(17A,542) Request for hearing.

17.4(1) Nonlicensees must request a hearing within 30 days of the date the notice is mailed if served through restricted certified mail to the last-known address, or within 30 days of the date of service if service is accepted or made in accordance with Iowa R. Civ. P. 1.305. A request for hearing must be in writing and is deemed made on the date of the nonmetered United States Postal Service postmark or the date of personal service.

17.4(2) If a request for hearing is not timely made, the board chairperson or the chairperson's designee may issue an order imposing the civil penalty, revoking the practice privilege, and requiring compliance with ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, section 13~~ Iowa Code chapter 542 and board rules, as described in the notice. The order may be mailed by regular first-class mail or served in the same manner as the notice of intent to impose civil penalty.

17.4(3) If a request for hearing is timely made, the board shall issue a notice of hearing and conduct a hearing in the same manner as applicable to disciplinary cases against licensees.

17.4(4) A nonlicensee may waive the right to hearing and all attendant rights and enter into a consent order imposing a civil penalty, revoking the practice privilege, and requiring compliance with ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, section 13~~, Iowa Code chapter 542 and board rules at any stage of the proceeding upon mutual consent of the board.

17.4(5) The notice of intent to issue an order and the order are public records available for inspection and copying in accordance with Iowa Code chapter 22. Copies may be published as provided in rule 193A—16.4(272C, ~~79GA, ch 55~~ 542). Hearings shall be open to the public.

ITEM 51. Amend rule 193A—17.5(542), introductory paragraph, as follows:

193A—17.5(542) Factors to consider. In addition to the factors set forth in ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, section 14(3)~~ Iowa Code section 542.14(3), the board may consider the following when determining the amount of civil penalty to impose, if any:

ITEM 52. Amend rules 193A—17.6(542) and 193A—17.7(542) as follows:

193A—17.6(542) “Safe harbor” language. Persons who do not hold a CPA certificate or LPA license ~~and~~, firms which do not hold a CPA or LPA firm permit to practice, or individuals or firms who are ineligible to exercise a practice privilege shall not use in any statement relating to the financial affairs of a person or entity language which is conventionally used by CPAs or LPAs in reports on financial statements. Pursuant to ~~the Iowa Accountancy Act of 2001, 2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, section 13(8)~~ Iowa Code section 542.13(8), such persons or firms may use the following “safe harbor” language:

“I (we) have prepared the accompanying (financial statements) of (name of entity) as of (time period) for the (period) then ended. This presentation is limited to preparing in the form of financial statements information that is the representation of management (owners). I (we) have not audited, reviewed or compiled the accompanying financial statements and accordingly do not express an opinion or any other form of assurance on them.”

193A—17.7(542) Enforcement options. In addition, or as an alternative, to the administrative process described in these rules, the board may seek an injunction in district court, refer the matter for criminal prosecution, or enter into a consent order as provided in ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 55, section 14~~ Iowa Code sections 542.14 and 542.15.

ITEM 53. Amend **193A—Chapter 17**, implementation sentence, as follows:
These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code ~~chapter~~ chapters 17A and ~~2001 Iowa Acts, chapter~~
~~55~~ 542.

ITEM 54. Rescind 193A—Chapter 18 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 18
LICENSEES' DUTY TO REPORT

193A—18.1(272C,542) Reporting acts or omissions committed by licensees.

18.1(1) Iowa Code section 272C.9(2) requires an individual or firm that is licensed by the board to report acts or omissions of others licensed by the board that demonstrate a lack of qualifications that are necessary to assure residents of this state a high standard of professional and occupational care. For the purposes of this rule, the failure to perform an engagement for a client in accordance with professional standards is a demonstration by a CPA or LPA or by a CPA or LPA firm that the CPA or LPA or the CPA or LPA firm may lack such qualifications. These professional standards are set forth in 193A—Chapter 13.

18.1(2) When a licensee observes a violation of any of the acts referenced in subrule 18.1(1), the licensee shall report the violation in writing to the board office, setting forth the name of the licensee alleged to have committed the violation and the rule(s) violated, together with a copy of all material that evidences the violation.

193A—18.2(272C,542) Reporting judgments and settlements alleging malpractice.

18.2(1) Iowa Code section 272C.9(3) requires a licensee to report to the board every adverse judgment in a professional malpractice action to which the licensee is a party and every settlement of a claim against the licensee. For the purposes of this rule, malpractice actions brought against a firm licensed by the board will be deemed to have been brought against both the firm and the firm's owners (e.g., partners, shareholders, or members) that performed the services that led to the malpractice action.

18.2(2) When a licensee is a party to an adverse judgment resulting from a professional malpractice action or is a party to a settlement of a claim resulting from an allegation of malpractice, the licensee shall file a report in writing forwarded to the board office, setting forth the name and address of the client, the date the claim was originally made, a brief description of the circumstances precipitating the claim and a copy of the judgment or settlement agreement resulting from the claim. It is the intent of this rule to require the reporting of all judgments or settlements resulting from claims that were initiated by court action and not claims of malpractice that are made against a licensee that are not filed in a court of law.

193A—18.3(272C,542) Timely reporting. The reports required by rules 193A—18.1(272C,542) and 193A—18.2(272C,542) shall be forwarded to the board within a reasonable period of time from the initial receipt of the information required to be reported. A period of less than 30 days will be considered to be a reasonable period of time.

193A—18.4(272C,542) Failure to make reports. Upon obtaining information that a licensee failed to file a report required by rules 193A—18.1(272C,542) and 193A—18.2(272C,542) within a reasonable period of time, the board shall initiate a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee who failed to make the required report.

193A—18.5(272C,542) Professional resolution encouraged. While a licensee may report any act to the board that provides a ground for discipline under 193A—Chapter 14, the board anticipates that licensees will attempt to informally resolve those matters that do not pose a risk to the public if promptly resolved through professional courtesy and in an educational fashion.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 272C and 542.

ITEM 55. Rescind and reserve **193A—Chapter 19.**

ITEM 56. Adopt the following new 193A—Chapter 20 and Chapter 21:

CHAPTER 20

PRACTICE PRIVILEGE FOR OUT-OF-STATE CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

193A—20.1(542) Overview and timing. Beginning July 1, 2009, out-of-state certified public accountants who maintain their principal place of business in a jurisdiction other than Iowa may practice public accounting in Iowa or for clients with a home office in Iowa without Iowa licensure if all of the conditions of Iowa Code section 542.20 and this chapter are satisfied.

193A—20.2(542) Out-of-state licensure status. The practice privilege described in Iowa Code section 542.20 applies to individuals who are licensed to practice as certified public accountants in the jurisdiction in which their principal place of business is located for those periods of time in which all of the following conditions are satisfied:

20.2(1) The out-of-state license is valid, in good standing, and active. The practice privilege shall cease if the out-of-state license expires in the jurisdiction of the individual's principal place of business.

20.2(2) The individual meets the criteria for substantial equivalency reciprocity, as provided in Iowa Code section 542.19, subsection 1, paragraph "a," "b," or "c," and 193A—9.5(542).

20.2(3) The license authorizes in the individual's principal place of business all of the public accounting services the individual performs or offers to perform in Iowa or for clients with a home office in Iowa.

193A—20.3(542) Iowa licensure may be required.

20.3(1) The auditor of state, the department of agriculture and land stewardship, other governmental official or body, or a client may require that an individual be licensed in Iowa as a condition of performing public accounting services in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa, whether or not the individual may otherwise satisfy the conditions for a practice privilege. Iowa licensure as a certified public accountant is required, for example, to perform certain audit services described in Iowa Code chapter 11.

20.3(2) Iowa licensure is required if an individual has an office in Iowa at which the individual uses the title "CPA," unless the individual satisfies the conditions for a practice privilege and one of the following is true:

a. The Iowa office is the office of an Iowa CPA or LPA firm that holds a permit to practice under Iowa Code section 542.7 or 542.8 and the individual provides public accounting services through that firm.

b. The Iowa office is the office of a business entity that is not required to hold a firm permit to practice under Iowa Code section 542.7 or 542.8 and the individual provides public accounting services through that business entity.

20.3(3) Iowa licensure is required if an individual moves the individual's principal place of business to Iowa and is otherwise required to be licensed under Iowa Code chapter 542. The board's streamlined application process for reciprocal licensure is described in Iowa Code section 542.19 and 193A—Chapter 9.

193A—20.4(542) Individuals ineligible for a practice privilege.

20.4(1) The practice privilege described in Iowa Code section 542.20 shall not be applicable if:

a. The individual has been convicted of a felony under the laws of any jurisdiction.

b. The individual has been convicted of any crime under the laws of any jurisdiction if an element of the crime involves dishonesty or fraud, such as forgery, embezzlement, obtaining money under false pretenses, theft, extortion, conspiracy to defraud, or similar offense, as more fully described in Iowa Code section 542.5(2).

c. The individual's license to practice public accounting has been suspended, revoked, or otherwise disciplined by a licensing authority in this or another state, territory, or country, for any cause

other than failure to pay appropriate fees. “Disciplined” shall include the voluntary surrender of a license to resolve a pending disciplinary investigation or proceeding in Iowa or another jurisdiction.

d. The individual’s right to practice public accounting before any state or federal agency, or the PCAOB, has been suspended or revoked.

e. The individual has applied for licensure as a certified public accountant in Iowa or another jurisdiction and the application has been denied.

f. Civil penalties have been imposed against the individual pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.14.

g. The individual’s authority to exercise a practice privilege has been revoked in Iowa or another jurisdiction.

20.4(2) Individuals precluded from exercising a practice privilege under this rule may apply for licensure in Iowa if otherwise qualified. The board will determine when an application is submitted whether the criminal or disciplinary history or other regulatory action provides a ground to deny licensure.

193A—20.5(542) Attest and compilation services.

20.5(1) Individuals providing audit, review or other attest services in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa must practice through a CPA firm that holds an active permit to practice pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.7.

20.5(2) Individuals providing compilation services in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa must comply with the peer review provisions of Iowa Code section 542.6(6), or provide such services through a CPA or LPA firm, or a substantially equivalent firm that holds a valid license in the firm’s principal place of business and that complies with the peer review and ownership provisions of Iowa Code section 542.7 or 542.8.

193A—20.6(542) Rights and duties.

20.6(1) Individuals who satisfy the conditions for a practice privilege may practice public accounting in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa in person, or by telephone, mail, or electronic means without licensure under Iowa Code chapter 542 or notice to the board.

20.6(2) Individuals lawfully practicing public accounting under a practice privilege may use the title “CPA” as long as they do not have an office in Iowa, except as provided in subrule 20.3(2).

20.6(3) Individuals practicing public accounting in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa while exercising a practice privilege are subject to all of the following provisions:

a. Practice privilege practitioners shall not make any representation tending to falsely indicate that the individuals are licensed under Iowa Code chapter 542. Such individuals may truthfully identify themselves as licensed in any jurisdiction in which they hold a valid, active, unexpired license to practice as a certified public accountant. For example, a practice privilege practitioner could not use the title “Iowa CPA” or otherwise state or imply licensure in Iowa, but, if true, the individual could use a title such as “CPA, licensed in Texas” or “Florida CPA.” Such individuals could also truthfully state that they are CPAs practicing under a practice privilege.

b. Practice privilege practitioners shall provide, upon a client’s or prospective client’s request, accurate information on the state or states of licensure, principal place of business, contact information, and manner in which licensure status can be verified.

c. Practice privilege practitioners shall comply with all professional standards, laws, and rules that apply to licensees performing the same professional services.

20.6(4) As a condition of exercising the practice privilege provided in Iowa Code section 542.20, the individual:

a. Consents to the personal and subject matter jurisdiction and regulatory authority of the board including, but not limited to, the board’s jurisdiction to revoke the practice privilege or otherwise take action under Iowa Code section 542.14 for any violation of Iowa Code chapter 542 or board rules;

b. Appoints the regulatory body of the state that issued the license in the individual’s principal place of business as the agent upon whom process may be served in any action or proceeding by the board against the individual;

c. Agrees to supply the board, upon the board's request and without subpoena, such information or records licensees are similarly required to provide the board under Iowa Code chapter 542, including but not limited to the information described in Iowa Code section 542.20, subsection 7, paragraph "c"; and

d. Agrees to promptly cease offering or providing public accounting services in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa if the license in the individual's principal place of business expires or is otherwise no longer in good standing, or if any of the conditions for exercising the practice privilege are no longer satisfied, or if the board revokes the practice privilege.

193A—20.7(542) Penalties.

20.7(1) Individuals purporting to practice public accounting under a practice privilege who are ineligible to exercise a practice privilege or who fail to satisfy the conditions for exercising a practice privilege are subject to all of the penalties that apply to unlicensed persons, including the criminal, administrative, and civil penalties described in Iowa Code sections 542.14 and 542.15.

20.7(2) If an individual acting or purporting to act under a practice privilege engages in any act or practice that does or may in the future violate Iowa Code chapter 542 or board rules, the board may take any or all of the following actions, as applicable:

a. Apply to the district court for an injunction, restraining order, or other order, pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.14(1);

b. Issue an order to require compliance with Iowa Code chapter 542 or board rules, impose a civil penalty up to \$1,000 per offense, which may be imposed per day for a continuing violation, and revoke the practice privilege, pursuant to the procedures outlined in Iowa Code section 542.14, subsections 2 to 5, and 193A—Chapter 17;

c. Deny the subsequent license application of the violator or the violator's firm, pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.20, subsection 4, paragraphs "a" and "b";

d. Refer the complaint or other relevant information to the jurisdiction that issued a license to the alleged violator; and

e. Take disciplinary action against the individual pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.10 if the individual holds an inactive or lapsed Iowa license.

20.7(3) Complaints filed with the board alleging violations by individuals who are not licensed by the board, including those acting or purporting to act under a practice privilege, are not confidential under Iowa Code section 272C.6(4) and shall not be treated as confidential unless otherwise provided in Iowa Code chapter 22 or other applicable law.

20.7(4) Persons filing complaints with the board against individuals acting or purporting to act under a practice privilege should provide as much information as possible to assist the board in locating the individual and in determining whether the individual is licensed in any jurisdiction.

193A—20.8(542) Relationship between Iowa licensure and the exercise of a practice privilege.

20.8(1) Active Iowa licensees. An Iowa licensee holding an active CPA certificate shall be treated for all purposes as an Iowa licensee and shall not be subject to the provisions of Iowa Code section 542.20.

20.8(2) Inactive Iowa licensees. An Iowa licensee holding an inactive CPA certificate is precluded by Iowa Code section 542.6(3) and rule 193A—5.9(272C,542) from performing attest or compilation services or using the title "CPA" while performing public accounting services in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa. The practice of an inactive CPA is restricted because the continuing education required to renew in active status does not apply to those renewing in inactive status. Some individuals holding an inactive Iowa CPA certificate may, however, hold an active CPA certificate in another jurisdiction in which they maintain their principal place of business and satisfy continuing education requirements. Such individuals may have maintained an inactive Iowa CPA certificate solely to facilitate reinstatement to active status when active Iowa licensure is required in their practice. The following provisions shall apply to inactive Iowa licensees who may wish to exercise a practice privilege:

a. In a disciplinary investigation or proceeding in which an inactive Iowa licensee is alleged to have improperly used the title “CPA” or otherwise practiced public accounting on an inactive license, the board shall take into consideration whether the inactive licensee, at the time of the events at issue, satisfied the conditions for a practice privilege under Iowa Code section 542.20 and complied with all rules applicable to the exercise of a practice privilege.

b. The individual shall take care to avoid public confusion about licensure status as provided in 193A—subrule 5.1(6).

c. Violations of Iowa laws or rules by an individual holding an inactive Iowa CPA certificate shall be prosecuted as disciplinary proceedings against a licensee under Iowa Code section 542.10, and, when appropriate under the factual circumstances, may also or alternatively be enforced under the provisions of Iowa Code sections 542.14 and 542.15.

20.8(3) *Lapsed Iowa licensees.* An Iowa licensee holding a lapsed Iowa CPA certificate is not authorized to perform attest or compilation services or to otherwise practice public accounting using the title “CPA” in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa. A lapsed licensee is subject to discipline for practicing on a lapsed license and may not represent oneself as a “CPA” in any context unless the licensee truthfully discloses that the certificate has lapsed. Some individuals holding lapsed Iowa CPA certificates may, however, hold active CPA certificates in another jurisdiction in which the individuals maintain their principal place of business. Such individuals may have intentionally allowed their Iowa CPA certificates to lapse because the individuals no longer need an active Iowa license in their practice. The following provisions shall apply to lapsed Iowa licensees who may wish to exercise a practice privilege:

a. In a disciplinary investigation or proceeding in which a lapsed Iowa licensee is alleged to have improperly used the title “CPA” or otherwise practiced public accounting on a lapsed license, the board shall take into consideration whether the lapsed licensee, at the time of the events at issue, satisfied the conditions for a practice privilege under Iowa Code section 542.20 and complied with all rules applicable to the exercise of a practice privilege.

b. The individual shall take care to avoid public confusion about licensure status as provided in 193A—subrule 5.1(6).

c. Violations of Iowa laws or rules by an individual holding a lapsed Iowa CPA certificate shall be prosecuted as disciplinary proceedings against a licensee under Iowa Code section 542.10, and, when appropriate under the factual circumstances, may also or alternatively be prosecuted under the provisions of Iowa Code sections 542.14 and 542.15.

20.8(4) *Former Iowa licensees.* An individual who held an Iowa CPA certificate at one time whose Iowa CPA certificate has been revoked or surrendered in connection with a disciplinary investigation or proceeding is prohibited from performing attest or compilation services or using the title “CPA” whether or not such individual may otherwise qualify for a practice privilege.

a. The former Iowa licensees described in this subrule are ineligible to exercise the practice privilege described in Iowa Code section 542.20.

b. Violations of Iowa Code chapter 542 or board rules by former Iowa licensees are subject to the criminal, civil and administrative remedies described in Iowa Code sections 542.14 and 542.15, and may also be prosecuted as disciplinary proceedings under Iowa Code section 542.10 if the license remains subject to reinstatement under Iowa Code section 542.12.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code section 542.20.

CHAPTER 21

PRACTICE PRIVILEGE FOR OUT-OF-STATE CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRMS

193A—21.1(542) Overview and timing. Beginning July 1, 2009, out-of-state certified public accounting firms that maintain their principal place of business in a jurisdiction other than Iowa may practice public accounting in Iowa or for clients with a home office in Iowa without Iowa licensure if all of the conditions of Iowa Code section 542.20 and this chapter are satisfied.

193A—21.2(542) Out-of-state licensure status. The practice privilege described in Iowa Code section 542.20 applies to certified public accounting firms that are licensed to practice as certified public accounting firms in the jurisdiction in which their principal place of business is located for those periods of time in which all of the following conditions are satisfied:

21.2(1) The out-of-state license is valid, in good standing, and active. The practice privilege shall cease if the out-of-state license expires in the jurisdiction of the firm's principal place of business.

21.2(2) The out-of-state license is substantially equivalent to a permit to practice issued under Iowa Code section 542.7.

21.2(3) The license authorizes in the firm's principal place of business all of the public accounting services the firm performs or offers to perform in Iowa or for clients with a home office in Iowa.

21.2(4) The public accounting services offered in Iowa or for clients with a home office in Iowa that are required under Iowa law to be performed by a CPA are performed by a person holding a certificate issued under Iowa Code section 542.6 or 542.19, or by a person exercising a practice privilege pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.20 and 193A—Chapter 20.

193A—21.3(542) When Iowa licensure may be required.

21.3(1) The auditor of state, the department of agriculture and land stewardship, other governmental official or body, or a client may require that a firm be licensed in Iowa as a condition of performing public accounting services in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa, whether or not the firm may otherwise satisfy the conditions for a practice privilege. Iowa licensure as a certified public accounting firm is required, for example, to perform certain audit services described in Iowa Code chapter 11.

21.3(2) Iowa licensure is required if:

a. The firm performs or offers to perform audit, review or other attest services in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa; or

b. The firm has one or more offices in Iowa at which the firm uses the title "CPAs," "CPA firm," "certified public accountants," or "certified public accounting firm."

193A—21.4(542) CPA firms ineligible for a practice privilege.

21.4(1) The practice privilege described in Iowa Code section 542.20 shall not be applicable if:

a. The firm or any of the firm's owners (e.g., partners, shareholders, or members) has been convicted of a felony under the laws of any jurisdiction.

b. The firm or any of the firm's owners (e.g., partners, shareholders, or members) has been convicted of any crime under the laws of any jurisdiction if an element of the crime involves dishonesty or fraud, such as forgery, embezzlement, obtaining money under false pretenses, theft, extortion, conspiracy to defraud, or similar offense, as more fully described in Iowa Code section 542.5(2).

c. The license to practice public accounting of the firm or any of the firm's owners (e.g., partners, shareholders, or members) has been suspended, revoked, or otherwise disciplined by a licensing authority in this or another state, territory, or country, for any cause other than failure to pay appropriate fees. "Disciplined" shall include the voluntary surrender of a license to resolve a pending disciplinary investigation or proceeding in Iowa or any other jurisdiction.

d. The right of the firm or any of the firm's owners (e.g., partners, shareholders, or members) to practice public accounting before any state or federal agency or the PCAOB has been suspended or revoked.

e. The firm or any of the firm's owners (e.g., partners, shareholders, or members) has applied for licensure as a certified public accounting firm or a certified public accountant in Iowa or any other jurisdiction and the application has been denied.

f. Civil penalties have been imposed against the firm or any of the firm's owners (e.g., partners, shareholders, or members) pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.14.

g. The authority of the firm or any of the firm's owners (e.g., partners, shareholders, or members) to exercise a practice privilege has been revoked in Iowa or any other jurisdiction.

21.4(2) Firms precluded from exercising a practice privilege under this rule may apply for licensure in Iowa if otherwise qualified. The board will determine when an application is submitted whether the

criminal or disciplinary history or other regulatory action against the firm or against any of the firm's owners (e.g., partners, shareholders, or members) provides a ground to deny licensure.

193A—21.5(542) Attest and compilation services.

21.5(1) Audit, review or other attest services must be performed in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa by a CPA firm that holds an active permit to practice under Iowa Code section 542.7.

21.5(2) CPA firms providing compilation services in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa must comply with the peer review and ownership provisions of Iowa Code section 542.7 but, unless required under rule 193A—21.3(542), compilation services may be performed by a CPA firm exercising a practice privilege under Iowa Code section 542.20.

193A—21.6(542) Rights and duties.

21.6(1) CPA firms that satisfy the conditions for a practice privilege may practice public accounting in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa in person, or by telephone, mail, or electronic means without licensure under Iowa Code chapter 542 or notice to the board.

21.6(2) CPA firms lawfully practicing public accounting under a practice privilege may use the title “CPAs,” “CPA firm,” “certified public accountants,” or “certified public accounting firm.”

21.6(3) CPA firms practicing public accounting in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa while exercising a practice privilege are subject to all of the following provisions:

a. Practice privilege firms shall not make any representation tending to falsely indicate that the firm is licensed under Iowa Code chapter 542. Such firms may truthfully identify themselves as licensed in any jurisdiction in which the firm holds a valid, active, unexpired license to practice as a certified public accounting firm. For example, a practice privilege firm could not use the title “Iowa CPAs” or “Iowa CPA firm” or otherwise state or imply licensure in Iowa, but, if true, the firm could use a title such as “CPA firm, licensed in Texas” or “Florida CPAs.” Such firm could also truthfully state that the firm is practicing in Iowa under a practice privilege.

b. Practice privilege firms shall provide, upon a client's or prospective client's request, accurate information on the state or states of licensure, principal place of business, contact information, and manner in which licensure status can be verified.

c. Practice privilege firms shall comply with all professional standards, laws, and rules that apply to licensed firms performing the same professional services.

21.6(4) As a condition of exercising the practice privilege provided in Iowa Code section 542.20, the firm:

a. Consents to the personal and subject matter jurisdiction and regulatory authority of the board including, but not limited to, the board's jurisdiction to revoke the practice privilege or otherwise take action under Iowa Code section 542.14 for any violation of Iowa Code chapter 542 or board rules;

b. Appoints the regulatory body of the state that issued the license in the firm's principal place of business as the agent upon whom process may be served in any action or proceeding by the board against the firm;

c. Agrees to supply the board, upon the board's request and without subpoena, such information or records that licensed firms are similarly required to provide the board under Iowa Code chapter 542, including but not limited to the information described in Iowa Code section 542.20, subsection 7, paragraph “c,” and rule 193A—7.3(542); and

d. Agrees to promptly cease offering or providing public accounting services in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa if the license in the firm's principal place of business expires or is otherwise no longer in good standing, or if any of the conditions for exercising the practice privilege are no longer satisfied, or if the board revokes the practice privilege.

193A—21.7(542) Penalties.

21.7(1) Firms purporting to practice public accounting under a practice privilege which are ineligible to exercise a practice privilege or who fail to satisfy the conditions for exercising a practice privilege are

subject to all of the penalties that apply to unlicensed firms, including the criminal, administrative, and civil penalties described in Iowa Code sections 542.14 and 542.15.

21.7(2) If a firm acting or purporting to act under a practice privilege engages in any act or practice that does or may in the future violate Iowa Code chapter 542 or board rules, the board may take any or all of the following actions, as applicable:

a. Apply to the district court for an injunction, restraining order, or other order, pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.14(1);

b. Issue an order to require compliance with Iowa Code chapter 542 or board rules, impose a civil penalty up to \$10,000 per offense, which may be imposed at a rate up to \$1,000 per day for a continuing violation, and revoke the practice privilege, pursuant to the procedures outlined in Iowa Code section 542.14, subsections 2 to 5, and 193A—Chapter 17;

c. Deny the subsequent license application of the violator or, to the extent responsible for the violation, any of the firm’s owners (e.g., partners, shareholders, or members), pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.20, subsection 4, paragraphs “a” and “b”;

d. Refer the complaint or other relevant information to a jurisdiction that issued a license to the alleged violator; and

e. Take disciplinary action against the firm or, to the extent responsible for the violation, any of the firm’s owners (e.g., partners, shareholders, or members), pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.10 if the firm or individual holds an inactive or lapsed Iowa license.

21.7(3) Complaints filed with the board alleging violations by firms that are not licensed by the board, including those acting or purporting to act under a practice privilege, are not confidential under Iowa Code section 272C.6(4) and shall not be treated as confidential unless otherwise provided in Iowa Code chapter 22 or other applicable law.

21.7(4) Persons filing complaints with the board against firms acting or purporting to act under a practice privilege should provide as much information as possible to assist the board in locating the firm and the individuals allegedly responsible for the acts or omissions causing the complaint, and in determining whether the firm or any responsible individual is licensed in any jurisdiction.

193A—21.8(542) Relationship between Iowa licensure and the exercise of a practice privilege.

21.8(1) *Active Iowa licensees.* An Iowa CPA firm holding an active permit to practice under Iowa Code section 542.7 shall be treated for all purposes as an Iowa licensee and shall not be subject to the provisions of Iowa Code section 542.20.

21.8(2) *Lapsed Iowa licensees.* An Iowa CPA firm holding a lapsed permit to practice under Iowa Code section 542.7 is not authorized to perform attest or compilation services or to otherwise practice public accounting using the title “CPAs,” “CPA firm,” “certified public accountants,” or “certified public accounting firm” unless the firm is eligible to exercise a practice privilege under Iowa Code section 542.20. The following provisions shall apply to firms holding a lapsed Iowa permit to practice when exercising a practice privilege:

a. In a disciplinary investigation or proceeding alleging unlicensed practice or improper use of title, the board shall take into consideration whether the lapsed licensee, at the time of the events at issue, satisfied the conditions for a practice privilege under Iowa Code section 542.20 and complied with all rules applicable to the exercise of a practice privilege.

b. The firm shall take reasonable steps to avoid public confusion over licensure status.

c. Violations of Iowa laws or rules by a firm holding a lapsed permit to practice shall be prosecuted as disciplinary proceedings against a licensee under Iowa Code section 542.10, and, when appropriate under the factual circumstances, may also or alternatively be prosecuted under the provisions of Iowa Code sections 542.14 and 542.15.

21.8(3) *Former Iowa licensees.* A CPA firm that held an Iowa permit to practice at one time which has been revoked or surrendered in connection with a disciplinary investigation or proceeding is prohibited from performing any act or practice for which Iowa firm licensure is required and is further ineligible to exercise the practice privilege described in Iowa Code section 542.20. Violations of Iowa Code chapter 542 or board rules by such a firm are subject to the criminal, civil and administrative

remedies described in Iowa Code sections 542.14 and 542.15, and may also be prosecuted as disciplinary proceedings under Iowa Code section 542.10 if the license remains subject to reinstatement under 193A—subrule 7.6(3).

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code section 542.20.